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Quadrennial reports for the period 2009-2012 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization

Special, 1973

Introduction

The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization was established in January 1958 at an inaugural conference held in Cairo. Its area of work covers Africa, Asia and the Pacific region.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the organization are:

(a) To unite, consolidate and accelerate actions of solidarity with struggle against all forms of aggression and racism and provide all-out moral, political and material support to the protection of freedom and national independence;

(b) To act, in an interdependent world, in support of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Non-Aligned Movement and to strengthen cooperation of the organization with the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement and with the other governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that act for the same objectives;

(c) To mobilize the peoples of Africa, Asia and other developing countries, progressive and democratic forces all over the world, against the policy of destabilization and against military pacts, blocs, bases and facilities;

(d) To propagate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including implementation of all the statutes, conventions, treaties and conventions passed and accepted by the United Nations organizations over the years;

(e) To resolve international, regional and national conflicts by peaceful dialogue on the basis of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations in the spirit of solidarity and on the basis of national reconciliation.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization supports the programmes of the Economic and Social Council; the peace efforts in the world and especially in the Middle East; the decolonization process; the non-proliferation treaty and projects for establishing a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction; the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in all its manifestations and applications; the Millennium Development Goals; and the efforts of the people addressing climate change in the world.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The national committees of the organization are involved in poverty alleviation by assisting their respective governments.

2. Agency for International Development

General Consultative Status, 2001

Introduction

The Agency for International Development seeks to contribute to the many actions undertaken by the specialized institutions of the United Nations and the European Union; and participate in the economic and social projects in developing countries in terms of health, education and training, agriculture and emergency assistance.

Aims and purposes of the organization

(a) To promote dialogue and exchange of information and experiences between its members and to sustain the development and strengthening of non-governmental organizations;

(b) To work on behalf of underprivileged people without distinction and to combat all kinds of discrimination, whether racial, national, political, religious or gender-related;

(c) To publish and/or broadcast articles, periodicals, books, audiovisual materials and newsletters about human development in general.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization:

(a) Distributed 1,387 tons of food and 202 tons of clothing to highly vulnerable families or individuals in Paris.

(b) Organized 4 conferences in Paris for International Human Rights Day: in 2009, on combating inequalities in political representation of Europeans deriving from minorities; in 2010, on equal rights in cultural diversity; in 2011, on civic involvement; and in 2012, on everyday human rights in France and in Europe.

(c) Mobilized 24,550 shopkeepers to display our posters in their shop-windows: 350,000 posters, information leaflets and postcards, to channel directly to the population, in their everyday lives, information opposing all forms of discrimination; and 45,600 people were contacted via our email campaigns.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In Geneva, the Agency for International Development organized nine side-events parallel to the sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council:

(a) On 9 June 2010, on safeguarding of women in conflict situations;

(b) On 11 June 2010, on refugees' rights and humanitarian aid;

(c) On 22 September 2010, on freedom of expression and movement in conflict zones;

(d) On 24 September 2010, on arbitrary expulsion in the light of international law;

(e) On 8 June 2011, on refugees' rights;

(f) On 22 September 2011, on the human dimension in conflict resolution;

(g) On 23 September 2011, on human rights in conflict zones;

(h) On 15 March 2012, on freedom of expression and movement in conflict zones;

(i) On 18 September 2012, on media and human rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No information supplied.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization has for several years been focusing on achieving the Millennium Development Goals. During the reporting period, in Morocco, it:

(a) Organized a fortnight's summer holiday in 2010, 2011 and 2012 for 6,122 pupils of four state schools in Bzou, Boujâad, Mohammadia et Salé.

(b) Set up a remedial support system for children at 10 existing state schools in the priority zones of Mohammadia, Boujâad and Salé;

(c) Carried out renovation work on three state schools in Boujâad and Salé;

(d) Distributed clothing aid and school supplies to the Mohammadia and Salé schools;

(e) Distributed one meal a day per child, clothing aid and school supplies for 435 children during the school year at Madani Safaar state school in Salé;

(f) Built and fitted out a food bank in Salé in 2010;

(g) Distributed 161 tons of food and 38 tons of clothing for the benefit of 12,499 vulnerable families in Salé, Boujâad and Bzou.

3. Cultural Association for Aid to Educational and Social Advancement

Special Consultative Status, 2001

Introduction

The Cultural Association for Aid to Educational and Social Advancement is a non-governmental organization whose headquarters are in Dakar, Senegal. It is a social movement whose mission is to contribute to sustainable development through the furtherance of civic education. It was granted special consultative status in 2001.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its aim is to contribute to sustainable development through advocacy of (global and holistic) civic education and the emergence of new forms of solidarity. Its strategic aims are, among others, to:

(a) Contribute to guaranteeing communities' right to life through global education, risk prevention and damage reduction in respect of health, hygiene and the environment;

(b) Encourage internalization of the principles of democratization, furtherance of rights and non-violent conflict prevention;

(c) Foster sharing, cooperation and integration between communities and nations, as well as self-reinforcement, while respecting sociocultural differences and realities.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Our contribution to the work of the United Nations has been shown through our input into discussions on the matters discussed during the various meetings of the Organization in which we have taken part.

(a) At the United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, held in New York from 24 to 26 June 2009, our representative suggested providing a safety net for the protection of the poorest populations and developing a social solidarity economy;

(b) At the Durban Review Conference on Racism, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, our representative submitted a paper on countering racism and the requirement for alternative education for diverse cultures;

(c) At the 53rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 2 to 13 March 2009, our representative defended women's access to land [ownership], wealth-creation for women in rural and peri-urban areas, and girls' education. Our representatives advocated a preventive policy for vulnerable sectors of the population;

(d) At the meeting of the Council with the African Union, held in Yaoundé from 21 to 23 May 2009, our representative, an accredited member of the Council,

proposed the option of policies of fundamental changes involving comprehensive participation by civil society in African Union decisions and a concertation framework between it, the Council and the United Nations;

(e) At the Fifth Conference on Education and Sustainable Development at the United Nations University, held at Curitiba, Brazil, from 18 to 20 May 2010, our representative defended positions favouring global education of young people for sustainable and consensual development in West Africa;

(f) At the side-meeting of NGOs on environmental education, held from 13 to 22 June 2012, during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, our representative submitted the programme for connecting classrooms with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the topic of climate change for young people;

(g) During the side-meetings (between NGOs), our representative insisted on the change of policy and on setting up a state and civil society consultation framework for better governance.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2009, the organization participated in the following meetings:

(a) The United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, held in New York from 24 to 26 June;

(b) Durban Review Conference on Racism, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April;

(c) The 53rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 2 to 13 March;

In 2010, the organization participated in the following meetings:

(a) The 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly, at a side-meeting of NGOs and at social events, from 14 to 22 December;

(b) The Fifth Conference on Education and Sustainable Development of the United Nations University, held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 18 to 20 May;

In 2011, the organization participated in an International Conference on Education and Sustainable Development, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations University, held in Kerkrade, Netherlands, from 21 to 23 November.

In 2012, the organization participated in the following meetings:

(a) A side-meeting of NGOs on environmental education, during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 13 to 22 June;

(b) A Conference on Centres of Regional Expertise, held by UNESCO and the United Nations University in Tongyeong, Republic of Korea, from 21 to 24 September.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, cooperation by the organization included:

(a) A cooperation programme on Regional Centres of Expertise and Education in Sustainable Development for Young People;

(b) A "Connecting Classrooms" project, with UNICEF, to promote the sharing of best practice in respect of the fight against AIDS, furthering the rights of the child and food security.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to Goal 6 in Senegal by educating 4,022 young people and raising awareness among 45,000 people.

The organization contributed to Goal 4 in Senegal by educating and training 8,000 children and young people.

The organization contributed to Goal 7 in Senegal by training 60 young educators/peers in environmental education and climate change.

The organization contributed to Goal 3 in Senegal by training 200 women in agriculture and in running a family farm.

From 2009 to 2012, the organization organized events in the framework of International AIDS Day, African Children's Day and International Women's Day.

Further information

The organization has enhanced its partnership portfolio. It is a member of Regional Centres of Expertise, whose headquarters is in Japan, and of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education, whose headquarters is in Paris.

4. Health and Environment Association

Special Consultative Status, 2001

Introduction

The Health and Environment Association was set up in 1996 with the aim of furthering one of the basic requirements of mankind: to live in good health in a healthy, balanced environment. It bases its action on the close links between the state of the environment and human health. The Association seeks to offer the citizen a forum for information, dialogue, education and training. It is an open NGO. Its members include doctors, academics, teachers, engineers, manufacturers and health and environmental professionals, as well as students.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the Association are:

(a) To raise awareness of the close relationship between environment and health;

(b) To investigate and evaluate the environmental factors likely to have an impact on health;

(c) To prevent environmental risks;

(d) To establish relations of cooperation and partnership with national and international bodies working in the field of environment and health.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Association participated in:

(a) Setting up a National Health and Environment Plan;

(b) Drawing up a review on adapting the health sector to climate change;

(c) Drawing up a practical guide for the management of medical wastes; and holding a public consultation reviewing the environmental and social impacts of the management scheme for wastes from health-care activities and from polychlorinated biphenyl in Tunisia in cooperation with the National Waste Management Agency ;

(d) Local processing of organic waste and recycling of waste water in collaboration with the National Bureau of Sanitation;

(e) Review of the Regulatory Framework on Pesticides in order to develop a national action plan for the prevention of accumulation of future stockpiles;

(f) Drawing up a National Covenant on Campaigning against Smoking on the initiative of the Ministry of Public Health and the National Anti-Smoking Committee;

(g) Advocacy of ecological tourism;

(h) Involvement in creating the National Code for the Environment.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No information supplied.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No information supplied.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Association organized the following round tables:

- January 2009, on cancer and the environment;
- April 2009 in Jendouba, Tunisia, on tobacco and health;
- May 2009, on health-care waste and the environment;
- June 2009, in collaboration with the Tunisian Society for Research on Sexuality and Impotence, on lifestyle, fertility and sexuality;
- March 2010, on climate and emerging health risks;

- May 2010, on cancers and sexuality;
- February 2012 in Tunis, on electromagnetic waves and health;
- April 2012, on public hygiene and the environment;
- June 2012, on society and the environment;
- September 2012, on the impact of lifestyle on health.

5. Action Committee for the Rights of the Child and Woman

Special Consultative Status, 1997

Introduction

The Action Committee for the Rights of the Child and Woman is a non-governmental organization set up on 8 March 1990 and recognized as being of public interest in April 1991. It has more than 500 members all over Mali. The executive directorate is based in Bamako. The organization has branches in the regions of Kayes, Ségou and Sikasso. The Committee is a member of networks for rights and women's citizenship for combating genital mutilation, early marriage, violence at work and domestic violence.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The overall goals and aims are to promote, protect and defend the human rights of the woman and the child.

The specific aims are the following:

(a) To monitor the correct application of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

(b) To participate in sustaining, protecting and defending the accrued rights of Malian women in legislative, legal, social, economic and cultural terms;

(c) To participate in the process of democratization [and] peace-building;

(d) To participate in establishing a sound culture of human rights, peace and tolerance;

(e) To participate in promoting good governance in Mali;

(f) To strengthen the bonds of friendship, cooperation and solidarity between the women of Mali, Africa and the world who are striving for human rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No information supplied.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization participated in:

(a) Meetings on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, held in New York in 2009, 2011 and 2012;

(b) Meetings of the United Nations Department of Public Information, and the 61st DPI–NGO Annual Conference in Paris, 3-5 September;

(c) The 54th and 55th sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York in 2009 and 2010;

(d) Deliberations of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations on the topic of elderly people, held in New York in 2010;

(e) Deliberations of the 48th session of the Commission for Social Development, held in New York in 2010.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization evaluated programmes on the rights of the woman and the child with UNICEF in Mali.

It also launched a research project on the experiences of women leaders in the fields of development, equality and peace, with the United Nations body for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

With respect to government, the organization:

(a) Supported the propagation of the two United Nations conventions on the rights of the woman and of the child, and the Millennium Development Goals through the ministries concerned by the issues of the rights of the woman and of the child;

(b) Contributed to deliberations on the draft Family Code and procedure for following up good governance in Africa.

With respect to civil society, the organization was involved in informing and educating 3,000 women and 2,000 students [male and female] regarding reproductive health, gender and elections in Mali.

6. Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education

Special, 1997

Introduction

Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education was founded in Montreal, Canada, in 1967 by a group of leading Canadian scholars, jurists and human rights advocates.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the organization are to advance democracy, human development, peace and social justice through education programmes focused on human rights. Guided by the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, our world-renowned human rights education programmes are transforming individuals, communities and societies.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

With our partners in Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, the organization contributed to the expansion of the East Africa human rights programme to better integrate marginalized groups in national dialogue for economic and political reform.

It also promoted youth civic participation in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco and the State of Palestine.

It launched a programme on speaking rights to engage youth between 12 and 18 years of age in learning about human rights and exploring issues important to them so that they can make changes in their communities.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization participated in the following events:

(a) Annual meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York;

(b) A forum on civic partnership for citizenship and human rights education, organized by the Council of Europe in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Strasbourg, France, on 9 and 10 October 2009;

(c) The Ninth International Conference for National Human Rights Institutions, including a side event, was organized in collaboration with OHCHR to launch a new Equitas publication on equality for women.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization's contributions included:

(a) Ongoing collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and OHCHR in the delivery of the organization's annual international human rights training programme in Montreal;

(b) Publication with OHCHR of a handbook for human rights educators, on evaluating human rights training activities;

(c) The development and delivery of two training workshops for United Nations staff members on the evaluation handbook;

(d) Membership in the United Nations human rights policy network, coordinated by the United Nations Development Programme Oslo Governance Centre;

(e) Collaboration with OHCHR in the development of human rights education impact indicators;

(f) With the Canadian Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), participation in a meeting of the Sectoral Commission [for] Education, held in Ottawa on 9 June 2011. Also for UNESCO, the organization participated with the Associated Schools Network in Canada in a workshop for a tri-national project on education for democratic citizenship and human rights education, held from 10 to 12 December 2012 in Winnipeg, Canada;

(g) Collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants;

(h) Collaboration with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti human rights section to provide training on understanding the human rights situations in Haiti.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Equitas programme directly addresses Goal 3, to promote gender equality and empower women.

In West Africa, the organization's programme in Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal focuses on the implementation of universal periodic review recommendations regarding gender equality and women's rights.

In Haiti, following the earthquake, the activities of Equitas alumni organizations mobilized communities to empower women to take on leadership roles to combat violence against women and participate in decision-making processes in displaced persons camps.

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1. Asia Pacific Network Information Centre

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Asia Pacific Network Information Centre is the Regional Internet Registry responsible for distributing Internet number resources to its members throughout the Asia Pacific region.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Centre distributes and manages Internet number resources, such as Internet Protocol addresses and autonomous system numbers, through an open, consensus-based, policy development process. It also supports Internet infrastructure development in the Asia Pacific region.

Significant changes in the organization

The most significant issue facing the Information Centre and the global Internet community is the transition to Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6), since the exhaustion of IPv4 addresses in the Asia Pacific region in April 2011, followed by Europe and the Middle East in September 2012. These Regional Internet Registries (the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre and the Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC) are now delegating small blocks of IPv4 from their final stock for the purposes of transition. IPv6, which provides an extremely large address space, resolves the demand for Internet Protocol addresses, but raises a number of transition and implementation issues. In its capacity, the Information Centre assists with regional IPv6 adoption, focusing on the needs of developing economies. A dedicated IPv6 program includes considerable training and outreach activities related to IPv6 deployment for the benefit of the region's network operators, policymakers, regulators and decision makers.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Asia Pacific Network Information Centre has been a Sector Member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) development sector since 2003. The Information Centre participated in past ITU World Telecommunications Development and Plenipotentiary Conferences and actively contributes to global and regional ITU IPv6 activities. It has collaborated with the ITU Asia Pacific Centre of Excellence since 2011 to deliver technical IPv6 workshops each year for telecom operators and government technical staff of ITU members in the region. In 2012, the Information Centre attended as an observer of the World Conference on International Telecommunications and promoted an open, transparent model of Internet governance. In 2013, it participated at the World Telecommunication and ICT Policy Forum and was part of an Informal Experts Group that supported its preparations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Internet Governance Forum — each year since 2006
- ITU-T IPv6 Group meetings, Geneva, in 2009, 2010 and 2011

- ITU plenipotentiary meeting, Geneva, in 2010
- World Telecommunication Development Conference, Hyderabad, India, in 2010
- World Conference on International Telecommunications, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in 2012
- World Summit on the Information Society Forum, Geneva, in 2012
- ITU World Telecommunication Policy Forum, Lisbon, in 2009

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Information Centre has been an active participant of the World Summit on the Information Society and follow-up activities.

Since 2009, the Information Centre has participated in the World Telecommunication Policy Forum, presenting statements embracing openness and also participated in the Informal Experts Group in 2013.

Since 2011, it has undertaken collaborative work with the ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and its Centre of Excellence to organize a series of workshops on IPv6 migration strategies.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Information Centre administers the Information Society Innovation Fund, which operates through a partnership with the International Development Research Centre and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, with sponsorship from the Internet Society and the DotAsia Organization.

Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women: Information Society Innovation Fund Asia has funded five projects to date that are specifically to support gender equality and empowerment of women.

Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality and Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health: Information Society Innovation Fund Asia has funded three projects to date that have directly contributed to helping local communities access reproductive health information and services to provide diagnoses and medical advice on maternal health and children's services to reduce child mortality.

Goal 8: Global Partnership for Development: the Information Centre works with its partners to deploy root server mirrors, which improve the speed of local Domain Name System services. The Centre has supported root server deployment since 2005, with 25 root servers deployed across the region; the Centre works with its partners to deliver hands-on educational services to networking engineers in Asia and the Pacific. Information Society Innovation Fund Asia works to address the special needs of least developed countries by providing grants and awards to initiatives in the global south, focusing on the special needs of landlocked and small island developing States; in 2012, the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre, the Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre, and the African Network Information Centre established the Seed Alliance, which is an umbrella to support the three programmes and related collaborative efforts. The Seed Alliance

will invest some AUD 3.5 million through 2015 to support Internet Development and Digital Innovation.

2. Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia is a regional partnership of 11 social development networks and organizations in 10 Asian nations that envisions Asian rural communities that are just, free, prosperous, living in peace and working in solidarity towards self-reliance.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its mission is to be an effective promoter and catalyst of partnership relations, facilitator of human resource development processes in the rural areas and mobilizer of expertise and opportunities for the strengthening of solidarity and kinship among Asian rural communities. The Partnership's regional policy advocacy work has always been anchored to its commitment to bring forward the voices of its partner peasant organizations to the frontline of the advocacy arena. It organized the five Farmers' Exchange Visits which eventually led to the formation of the Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Participated in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regional Conference on Food Security, May 2009, Bangkok
- Participated in the 29th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific FAO-Conference, March in Bangkok
- Participated in the Investment Forum and Market Place for Food Security in Asia and the Pacific, Manila, July 2010. Co-organized by FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Participated in the 37th FAO Conference Side Event entitled "Campaign in Favour of the International Year of Family Farming", July 2011, Rome
- Participated in the Joint FAO/Civil Society Planning and Team Building Meeting, March 2011, Bangkok

- Participated in the Regional Consultation on Policy and Programmatic Actions to Address High Food Prices in Asia and the Pacific Region, March 2011, Bangkok
- Participated in a forum on food security sponsored by the FAO Regional Office for Asia-Pacific entitled, "Nutrition-Sensitive Food Production Systems for Sustainable Food Security", December 2011, Bangkok
- Attended the Fourth Meeting of the Farmers Forum, February 2012, at the IFAD Headquarters in Rome; regular invitee in the biennial Forum since 2006
- AsiaDHRRA Executive Committee members participated in the 31st session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Hanoi, March 2012

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Host and organizer for the FAO-Civil Society Organization (CSO) Food Security Consultation in the Asia and the Pacific Region, February 2010, Pasig City, Philippines Appointed CSO interlocutor by FAO to organize the CSO preparatory FAO-CSO Side Event entitled "Investment For Whom and for What? Bringing in Asia Pacific Peoples' Voices in the Investment Forum for Food Security," July 2010, Manila
- Main CSO interlocutor for FAO and organized the CSO Parallel Consultation held in conjunction with the 30th FAO-Asia Pacific Regional Conference, September/October 2010, Gyeongju, Republic of Korea
- Co-organized with the Vietnam Farmers' Union the "CSO Meeting: Consolidating Efforts for Effective Engagement on Food and Agriculture Governance" in conjunction with the 31st FAO-Asia Pacific Regional Conference, March 2012, Hanoi
- Convened and co-organized the Southeast Asia civil society mechanism Subregional Consultation focusing on "Development of Principles for Agricultural Investment, Voluntary Guidelines on Land, and other Priority Issues of CFS", May 2012, Jakarta

Contracted by IFAD to provide technical assistance in conducting the midterm and final supervisory implementation support mission for the IFAD Medium Term Cooperation Programme with Farmers' Organizations in 10 countries in Asia (November/December of 2011 and 2012).

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

3. Association for Women's Rights in Development

General, 1997

Introduction

The Association for Women's Rights in Development is an international, feminist membership organization founded in 1982 and committed to achieving

gender equality, women's human rights and sustainable development. By the end of 2012, the Association had a total of 3,875 members from 156 countries, with 64 from the Global South. It has an international staff of 40, working out of 12 countries, including offices in Toronto, Mexico City and Cape Town.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the Association continues to be to strengthen the voice, impact and influence of women's rights advocates, organizations and movements internationally to effectively advance the rights of women.

Significant changes in the organization

The Association's institutional membership grew 38.5 per cent, reaching 600 institutional members by December 2012. It realized significant growth in the reach of its information resources from 25,600 weekly e-subscribers in January 2009 to over 46,000 by December 2012.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association has been actively engaged in the United Nations development agenda, working with other women's rights organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs) to help keep women's rights and gender equality as key elements of major international development cooperation, aid effectiveness and financing for development processes and agendas, working to ensure that these processes remain open and responsive to civil society inputs and proposals and fulfil funding commitments; and are accessible for the participation of feminists and women's rights advocates. The Association has played leadership roles within the CSO platforms, including the Women's Working Group on Financing for Development and Better Aid Cooperating Group and CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, and a member of the United Nations Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) advisory board since 2012.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association's representatives participated in the following events:

In 2009:

- The World Financial and Economic Crisis and its impact on development, New York, June; High-Level Symposium on "Accountable and Transparent Development Cooperation: Towards a More Inclusive Framework" (Vienna, November)

In 2010:

- Commission on the Status of Women, where the Association co-hosted a side event on "Gender Equality in Economic Crisis and Recovery: Getting the Macroeconomic Policies Right", with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the Centre for Women's Global Leadership of Rutgers University, New York, March; the Second High-Level Symposium of the Women's Working Group on Financing for Development, Helsinki, June; the European Commission/United Nations Partnership on Gender Equality for Development and Peace, New York, July

In 2011:

- Commission on the Status of Women, where the Association co-organized a debate with ActionAid and the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, New York, March 2011

In 2012:

- The Commission on the Status of Women, where the Association was a panellist at the debate on "Progress in financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women from the perspective of international organizations and multilateral development partners", New York, March; Development Cooperation Forum Vienna Policy Dialogue on Gender Equality, presented in plenary meeting and panels on "Gender equality and women's rights in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda", December; Expert Group Meeting on Gender and the post-2015 agenda by UN-Women, New York, November

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During this period, the Association cooperated with United Nations bodies in the following activities, among others: (a) Commission on the Status of Women, New York, from 2009 to 2012; (b) delivered a presentation at the fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Korea, 2010; (c) co-organized a panel on Religion, Fundamentalism and Human Rights with the International Council on Human Rights Policy at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Geneva, 2011; (d) supported Women Human Rights Defenders delegations from Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala to UNHRC Geneva, 2011; (e) co-convened with Women Human Rights Defenders a panel on Women Human Rights Defenders at the United Nations Human Rights Council, Geneva, 2011; and (f) collaborated with UN-Women and the Development Cooperation Forum Secretariat on preparations for the Vienna Policy Dialogue (2012), and submitted responses to Civil Society Dialogue with the High-level Panel on the Post-2015 Development in December 2012.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Association's work has focused primarily on Millennium Development Goals 3 and 8. The Association has actively advocated for adequate financing to meeting women's rights commitments, including its contributions to influencing the development effectiveness agenda and its advocacy with diverse donors. The Association persuaded key donors to provide a significant increase in funding for gender equality and women's rights and its research was cited by the Government of the Netherlands as instrumental in their decision to launch, and later replenish the Millennium Development Goal 3 Fund. The Association has also been instrumental in the creation of FRIDA-The Young Feminist Fund, a new funding mechanism that supports young feminist initiatives around the world.

4. Child Foundation

General, 2005

Introduction

Established in 1994, Child Foundation is an international non-profit organization with the simple objective of helping children to study.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Child Foundation attempts to support the urgent needs of needy, talented children and their families multilaterally. In this regard, Child Foundation not only has been thoroughly successful in achieving its humanitarian purposes but also attempts to enhance international cooperation with NGOs with a similar mandate to help them to achieve their goals. Child Foundation started to take needy children under its sponsorship, believing in the motto "No Gifted and Talented Child's Education should be hindered as a Consequence of Financial Hardships". It has been sponsoring more than 9,000 needy talented children and their families since it was established. Nearly 60 per cent of these children are female. This shows Child Foundation's specific attention to the girls and women, as they are more vulnerable than men. While its broad aims and objectives, and the nature of its activities have remained the same, Child Foundation has expanded the areas of its activities to other countries, including the United States of America, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland and Germany. It also has expanded the areas of support within the Islamic Republic of Iran by establishing new branches since 2009.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In conformity with Economic and Social Council goals, Child Foundation has focused on implementing and developing educational programmes for needy, talented children and their families during the past four years to achieve two important goals of eradicating poverty and promoting education simultaneously. Expanding the range of activities in the Islamic Republic of Iran and other countries can also be considered among the Foundation's actions during these years.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2009, Child Foundation attended the twelfth session of the Human Rights Council, at Geneva.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

During the 2009-2012 reporting period, Child Foundation contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the Islamic Republic of Iran in many ways:

Goal 1: To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: provided financial aid to 710 families; provided financial aid to 108 families; distributed food to 700 families a year; distributed food to 1,700 Afghan immigrant children.

Goal 2: To achieve universal primary education: provided primary education for 2,029 children, secondary education for 958 children, high school education for 1,144 children, university education for 677 students, and distributed school supplies to 5,225 students.

Goal 3: To promote gender equality and empowering women: organized six workshops for mothers with the goal of strengthening home management and child rearing skills.

Goal 4: To reduce child mortality rates: provided medicine for 751 children, and surgery and treatment to 45 patients.

Goal 8: To develop a global partnership for development: Child Foundation provided assistance to the victims of the earthquake in Varzaghan, eastern Azerbaijan province, north of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

5. Children of a Better Time

Special, 1997

Introduction

Children of a Better Time is an international non-governmental organization concerned with severe public health problems affecting children. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child serves as its primary guiding principle.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of Children of a Better Time is to further the health, well-being and quality of life of children worldwide through intergenerational, gender-oriented public health research, dissemination of knowledge and the funding of projects.

Significant changes in the organization

The relationship with the Karolinska Institutet as a base for research was strengthened. The programme was consolidated across three main lines relating to the Millennium Development Goals and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995), guided activities.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization focused its attention on research related to the Millennium Development Goals, and on implementing educational ventures. Representatives of

the organization provided background knowledge relating to the global, regional and national progress of Millennium Development Goals 3, 4 and 5. The Department of Public Health Sciences served as a collaborative centre to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Cooperation took place in the field and in conjunction with international conferences. Field activities included contribution to studies related to the Millennium Development Goals 3, 4 and 5 in low-income settings and to resulting publications. Aside from adding to international research, findings served as the basis for the development of a training programme for health personnel in Yemen. Consultancies took place with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In accordance with the policies and guiding principles of the organization and stressing the interdependency of health and human rights, initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals were taken in all three areas of the Children of a Better Time programme.

1. A study in Yemen of reproductive mortality of women and children with a focus on pregnancy (Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5).

2. Studies related to Millennium Development Goals 3 and 5 were completed and published.

3. Training of health personnel: Planned in Yemen, for a general low-income country audience potentially through WHO (Millennium Development Goals 3, 4 and 5).

4. At the Children of a Better Time headquarters, initiatives were taken through the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to consult with and further engage the previous Special Rapporteur on violence against women with Children of a Better Time. The theme of violence against women cuts through the whole programme and an intergenerational approach is also of a high relevance (Millennium Development Goal 3).

5. Initiatives were taken to collaborate with chapters of the Inter-African Committee in the Sudan (Millennium Development Goals 3, 4 and 5).

6. Educational ventures: Lectures, seminars and workshops took place at the Karolinska Institutet and three other universities in Sweden (Millennium Development Goals 3, 4 and 5).

6. Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative is an independent, non-partisan, international non-governmental organization, mandated to ensure the practical realization of human rights across the Commonwealth.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The objectives of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative are to promote awareness of and adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Harare Commonwealth Declaration, and other internationally recognized human rights instruments, as well as in-country laws and policies that support human rights in member States. The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative places particular emphasis on the democratic principles of accountability and participation and has developed a strong focus on access to justice and access to information, as they are crucial for the poor and marginalized.

Significant changes in the organization

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative joined the Working Group on Human Rights in India and the United Nations Working Group on Human Rights, a civil society collective coordinating United Nations engagement.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative monitors and reports on the performance and commitments of Commonwealth countries at the Human Rights Council in its "Easier Said than Done" reports. A new edition was released in 2011.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative works to improve Commonwealth engagement with the universal periodic review by responding to queries from Governments and resourcing meetings: March 2010, Commonwealth's mid-term review of the universal periodic review, London; Commonwealth's 2012 regional governmental universal periodic review training (Grenada, February; and Namibia, February). Additionally, the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative released universal periodic review briefs for the East African Community.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative worked to encourage civil society participation in the universal periodic review by resourcing initiatives from January 2009 to September 2012.

In India, the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative chaired the parallel national universal periodic review consultation, October, New Delhi; participated in the National Human Rights Commission's National consultation, October, New Delhi; and aided the organization of all five Working Groups on Human Rights regional consultations.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative facilitated discussions on increasing the accessibility and relevance of the Human Rights Council to the Global South, Sao Paulo, Brazil, November 2009.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative built the capacity of human rights defenders to engage with the United Nations through training from February 2009 to August 2012. It participated in the review of the Human Rights Council: October, chaired the civil society universal periodic review meeting, Geneva, and presented on the universal periodic review at the Ambassadorial Retreat, December, Thailand.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative organized a side event on Human Rights Defenders and Police Reform in East Africa in 2009, at the Human Rights Council.

During 2011, the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative supported several initiatives at the Human Rights Council that supported democratic principles and sought improvements in funding for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative submitted a written statement on decriminalization of consensual adult same-sex conduct, at the nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council.

During 2012, the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative made seven joint submissions to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative made the written submissions for the universal periodic review in 2009, 2010 and 2012. It co-sponsored side events on the Indian and Sri Lankan reviews. During the seventeenth session of the Human Rights Council in 2011, the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative made an oral statement.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative collaborated with the World Bank on good governance initiatives, including the South Asian workshop on transparent governance, in 2010, New Delhi. It worked with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on democracy initiatives, shared information on police reform in Bangladesh and contributed to UNDP India's 5-year programme map in 2012, in India.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative transparency and access to justice initiatives are vital for the advancement of the Millennium Development Goals. It trains development actors to use international mechanisms and legislation on the right to information as a tool for transforming service delivery and poverty eradication.

Additional information

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative intervenes at the United Nations only to strengthen or protect domestic actors. It is one of the few international

organizations based within the Global South, with United Nations experience, that can legitimately give a voice to the region.

7. Council of International Programs

Special, 1989

Introduction

The Council of International Programs is a non-profit organization located in Cleveland, Ohio, in the United States of America. It has alumni branches in 31 countries and an affiliate network of five international exchange offices in the United States.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and mission of the Council of International Programs is to promote international understanding through professional development and cross-cultural exchange. Programs are designed to address each participant's professional and educational goals, encouraging awareness and understanding of cultural differences.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Council of International Programs continues to build partnerships with the country programme within its network. It has continued to support the Millennium Development Goals through its global partners. It encouraged its membership to support the goals in their own countries and ensured that all participants are fully familiar with the Millennium Development Goals.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Council continues to cooperate with the World Organization for Early Childhood Education for projects in the education of young children. At this time, the focus is on the use of the creative arts to meet the mental health needs of high-risk populations.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In June 2012, in support of Millennium Development Goal 7, the organization hosted an environmental sustainability programme to promote policies that it implements in Cleveland, Ohio, and shared best practices in sustainability with a group of environmental leaders from Volgograd, Russia.

In March 2013, in support of Millennium Development Goal 3, it hosted a group of female leaders from Kyrgyzstan who work to empower women and youth in their community.

The Council continued to work on projects in Jamaica that help build capacity in the early childhood and mental health sectors in support of Millennium Development Goal 2. It expanded the project to support capacity-building with professionals working with 0-6-year-old populations. It is involved in a health and literacy project and will continue to support educational activities and human services for children and families.

Also in support of Millennium Development Goal 2, it hosted three delegations of educators from Ukraine, the Russian Federation, and Jamaica to help enrich their interaction with parents in encouraging them to enrol their children in school. These educators work with students with special education needs. The Council is working on capacity-building efforts in the education of children through the use of creative arts with at-risk populations in Jamaica and Turkey.

8. DARE America

Special, 2009

Introduction

DARE America is an international drug and violence prevention education programme. It is primarily taught by police officers in schools. It was founded in 1983 in Los Angeles and rapidly spread nationally and internationally and it is currently in more than 50 countries. The international headquarters is in Inglewood, California.

DARE America was introduced as an innovative programme focused on youth abuse of illicit substances. It has since been acknowledged as a primary force for introducing substance abuse prevention education into school classrooms around the world.

Its introduction occurred during the height of an epidemic stage of youth abuse of illicit drug use. Since its launch, it has substantively contributed to a significant reduction in youth illicit drug use. Prior to its debut in 1983, "hard drug" use by 12th-grade students had peaked at 43 per cent and marijuana use had reached nearly 60 per cent. By 2011, those numbers had dropped to 25 per cent for hard drugs and under 40 per cent for marijuana. Over the course of the past three decades, it has grown, with programmes throughout the United States, Department of Defense Schools worldwide, and in 49 other countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The goals of the organization are to give children the necessary tools to make good decisions in all aspects of their lives, specifically in the areas of drugs and violence; however, it also provides supplemental lessons on a number of current problem areas such as bullying, Internet safety and prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Its mission is "Teaching students good decision-making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives". Its vision is "A world in which students everywhere are

empowered to respect others and choose to lead lives free from violence, substance abuse, and other dangerous behaviour".

Significant changes in the organization

In the past few years, DARE America has developed new curricula to address a more diverse population inclusive of minority groups both in the United States and internationally. It provides service to the poorest of the poor around the world, as well as more affluent communities.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

From the United States to Latin America to the Middle East and Europe, DARE America is on the ground teaching children skills they need to bring themselves out of poverty. It introduces them to mentors and role models who help address individual problems with each child.

DARE America has actively participated in initiatives supporting the purpose of the United Nations to bring all nations of the world to work for peace and development, based on the principles of justice, human dignity and well-being of all people. It affords the opportunity for countries to balance global interdependence and national interests when addressing international problems. DARE America's efforts have focused upon providing substance abuse prevention education, the presence of which undermines the stated purpose of the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

It participated in and addressed many issues at sessions held in New York:

- Commission on the Status of Women, March 2010; and the Commission for Social Development, February 2010, and February 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

DARE America cooperates with United States embassies throughout the world in supporting the training of host government law enforcement agencies to deliver its curricula to millions of children. The Ministries of Education in many developing countries are required to provide DARE America and DARE International with a commitment to be involved in the training of law enforcement personnel.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

As mentioned above, DARE America is on the ground throughout the world, working to break the cycle of poverty with education.

9. European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages

Special, 1997

Introduction

The European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages was established in 1982 through the Arfé resolution of the European Parliament. It is an independent,

democratic, non-governmental organization for linguistic diversity and democracy. Based on Member State Committees, it is now open to local organizations and academics, representing hundreds of organizations and thousands of volunteers. It represents the interest of the various regional or minority communities within their States, comprising 40 million citizens from the European Union.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the network are to help people fight for their cultural and linguistic rights and to link them together to share good practices and advocate for the respect of cultural and linguistic rights of individuals and minorities as recognized by the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities and other international covenants as those of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). It plays a vital role in maintaining and securing the future of Europe's linguistic diversity and democracy. The network is linked to European Union institutions, the European Parliament, and has participative consultative status with the Council of Europe.

Significant changes in the organization

In January 2010, the umbrella organization of the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages in Ireland was closed as a consequence of the new funding structure within the European Union and the Irish committee was unable to maintain its membership. Nevertheless the Council of the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages hoped that new ways of European cooperation would arise for this very essential part of European cultural heritage. Working as a network, coordinated by the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages-France, member State committees of the Bureau met in 2010 and in 2011 with the participation of the Head of the secretariat of the European Charter for regional or minority languages in 2012. The general assembly gave a mandate to the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages-France, to declare the Bureau network as an official association in France in September 2012 with the name: the European Language Equality Network, or usually the European Language Equality Network-European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages. Its board met Europe's Commissioner for Culture and Education in January 2013 in Brussels.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

From 2008 to 2012, the Bureau was focused on ratifying the European Charter for regional and minority languages in Europe, and implementing minorities' cultural rights, especially in France and Greece, the last member States in the European Union to ratify the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and therefore do not recognize the rights of minorities.

Annual conferences and meetings took place in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2012.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives attended the following events and presented written and oral statements in the United Nations in Geneva, in the Forum on Minority Issues of the Human Rights Council in 2008, 2009 and 2012.

It also attended the fortieth session of the Economic and Social Council Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in 2008, on the report on France, and the Human Rights Council universal periodic review pre-session on the report on France, in 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

Additional information

The European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages network is the only NGO that is specifically devoted to linguistic and cultural rights in Europe.

10. Federation of Cuban Women

Special, 1997

Introduction

The objectives of the Federation of Cuban Women are to: struggle for the full incorporation, participation and promotion of women in the economic, political, social and cultural life of the country under conditions of equality of rights and opportunities; strengthen awareness among families of their responsibilities; and promote the development of non-sexist education in the family, school and society to prevent sexist stereotypes.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Main activities include: women in decision-making, employment, social and community work, environmental work, rural women, violence against women, education, health and training, and others. The Federation of Cuban Women is affiliated with the Women's International Democratic Federation, the International Council of Social Welfare, and the Conference of NGOs.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Federation attended sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2010, 2011 and 2012 and participated in about 80 of their parallel events. During 2010 and 2012 the Federation, together with the Women's International Democratic Federation, prepared and held parallel events within the framework of the Commission. The Federation attended the eleventh to twenty-first sessions of the Human Rights Council, and presented oral statements on the items related to women, health, employment, human rights, international solidarity, gender perspective, the right to self-determination, the right to development, economic,

social and cultural rights; civil and political rights; and the rights of the Palestinian people and arbitrary detentions and in the presentation of the report on human rights. At the sixteenth session of the Human Rights Council, held in 2011, representatives participated in the interactive dialogues on the annual report, on the working group on arbitrary detention, and in the panel on the situation of human rights in Western Sahara and the right to self-determination.

The Federation has assisted Cuba in providing responses to questionnaires, consultations and statements on national reports on the Millennium Development Goals and in 2009 on the fifteenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo 1994).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Federation of Cuban Women sent written statements to different bodies, including the Human Rights Council on: Children's rights in Cuba, Promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, cultural and social rights, including the right to development, the Situation of human rights in Palestine and other Arab territories, among others.

On the Millennium Development Goals, it supported the mandate of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, on rural women and the advancement of women, and to the Economic and Social Council on the use of the Consultative Status by Latin American NGOs.

In 2010 it contributed to the discussions at the annual ministerial review on the application of the internationally adopted objectives and compromises with regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women.

It contributed to the universal periodic reviews of the United States of America, the People's Republic of China and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Two contributions were officially distributed in the Commission on the Status of Women in the framework of the fifteen-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 2010, and on the empowerment of rural women and poverty eradication, in 2012.

The Federation also contributed to the presentation of the Cuban reports on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, universal periodic review reports, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, in 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Federation works with UNDP on the prevention of HIV/AIDS and the programme against tuberculosis. With UNFPA, it printed materials for education, raising awareness and training courses for combating sexist stereotypes and to provide sexual education, and implements a project with the World Food Programme (WFP).

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Federation participated in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in 2012; in the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research Regional Meeting, Dominican Republic, 2012; and in the World Joint Conference of the International Council of Social Welfare, Hong Kong, 2010. It has also shared its experiences in events organized by international and regional organizations.

11. Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan

Special, 2005

Introduction

The mission of the Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan is the consolidation and strengthening of women's NGOs in order to promote the advancement of women, gender equality and women's empowerment, and to increase women's participation in public life. Main goals of the Forum include the consolidation of the women's movement, development of the capacity of women's organizations, empowerment of women and their organizations, promotion of gender equality, and gender awareness. The Forum also aims to implement the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Millennium Development Goals, and Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security.

Aims and purposes of the organization

In addition, the Forum works towards the integration of women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan into the regional and global women's movement and strengthening of the women's NGO network. The main areas of work are strengthening women's participation in political processes, elimination of violence against women, improving the economic status of women, and monitoring the implementation of international and national legislation that protects women.

Significant changes in the organization

While its main aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities remain much as described in the submission of 2005, the Forum has expanded its monitoring areas and added monitoring of the Convention, Millennium Development Goals, Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), financing for development and aid and development effectiveness in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. In 2012, the president of the Forum became a member of the country advisory group for UN-Women.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Forum worked for women's rights by submitting two written statements and presenting two oral statements at United Nations processes, a shadow report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, organizing four parallel sessions at United Nations meetings, and organization of the celebration of the United Nations rural women's day.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2009, the Forum attended the session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, and organized two parallel sessions: on the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in New York; where Forum representatives submitted recommendations on "Women's economic problems in Kyrgyzstan after divorce"; the Asia Pacific Regional Consultations with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, in Bangkok in December.

In 2010, it attended the NGO Global Forum for Women: fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in New York; attended the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, where the Forum organized two parallel sessions and made presentations; participated in the Informal Interactive Hearings of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, in New York, and made an oral statement on women's rights and women's empowerment.

In 2011, it attended the Asia Pacific Regional Consultations with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, in Kuala Lumpur; the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York; and the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, in Busan, Republic of Korea.

In 2012, it attended the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, and made presentations at the parallel sessions; presented a written statement at the 2012 High Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council; attended the Asia Pacific Regional Consultations with members of United Nations Treaty Body Experts, in Kavre, Nepal.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Forum organized a campaign, "16 days of Activism to End Violence against Women" in partnership with the UN-Women country office, where the Forum designed and prepared a widely disseminated brochure as the campaign material "Learn and protect your rights!" Bishkek. It also prepared in English and Russian a booklet, "Violence against Women in Central Asia" and session materials for participants in the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Forum organized a series of provincial conferences and meetings for the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and National plan of action for gender equality in five provinces of Kyrgyzstan, in 2009; and provided 20 training workshops for women leaders in support of Millennium Development Goal 1 by implementing a project in rural areas on "Women in Action and Solidarity against Poverty in the Kyrgyz Republic". In support of Goal 8, it organized a series of activities in the area of aid and development effectiveness and partnership development during the 2009-2012 reporting period.

12. Foundation for International Training

Special, 1997

Introduction

The Foundation for International Training works among its partners to address human rights issues, promote gender equality and support democratic development through improved governance.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Foundation's mission is to further social and economic progress in developing countries by strengthening human capacities. This mission is predicated on the conviction that people — their institutions, skills and capacities — are the most critical resource for development. For over 35 years, the Foundation has worked with people from all segments of society to strengthen the capacities of its partner organizations to envision and manage development programmes that contribute to increased human rights and poverty reduction.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Foundation projects are designed and implemented in keeping with United Nations priorities and conventions, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the International Labour Organization's Occupational Health and Safety Conventions. It encourages its partners to understand the commitments that their respective Governments make when they ratify United Nations conventions and, with this knowledge, participate in cross-sector dialogue and cooperation in order to enhance legal, regulatory and policy developments.

The Child Rights Project in Sri Lanka developed capacities among NGOs and the Government to apply rights-based approaches to child protection. A central component of this capacity development was the provision of training for all partners in the principles and responsibilities set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Additional support was provided on how to apply specific articles of the Convention in the context of programming and advocacy activities.

The Participatory Development Program in Egypt facilitated dialogue on a number of rights issues such as gender-based discrimination, child rights, and the rights of persons with disabilities. This included a series of round table meetings to put forward recommendations for new legislation to reflect Egypt's commitments as a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Between 2009 and 2012, the Migrant Labour Occupational Health and Safety Project provided input into 48 laws and new regulations designed to bring standards and practices in Chongqing in line with China's commitments as a signatory to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention (1981) and the Safety and Health in Construction Convention (1988).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Foundation for International Training completed the Gender Equality and African Regional Institutions project in partnership with the African Trade and Policy Centre, a project of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Through the project, the Centre built an understanding of the gender dimensions of trade issues. Using this increased capacity for gender analysis and research, it led a number of regional initiatives to promote gender-sensitive trade policies and strategies and in 2011 published an assessment of gender impacts of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) trade protocol in selected countries.

Other Foundation projects facilitated partners' engagement with relevant United Nations bodies, such as UNICEF in Sri Lanka and ILO in China.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Child Rights Project Centre for Reproductive Rights assisted 60 Sri Lankan organizations to recognize and reduce the barriers that affect girls' access to primary and secondary education while giving technical assistance and training that resulted in a significant increase in access to resources and participation among female children.

The Gender Equality and African Regional Institutions Project resulted in increased gender equality within the work of four African regional institutions: the African Trade and Policy Centre; Forum for Agricultural Research; the Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat; and L'Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel.

The Participatory Development Program supported 78 civil society organizations in increasing gender equality in education, access to income-generation opportunities and government services such as identity documents, and their ability to participate in community and civic life.

13. Foundation for the American Indian

Special, 2005

Introduction

The aims and purposes of the Foundation for the American Indian are to enhance the quality of life through support for human services, economic development, the arts, education and environmental stewardship. Its goal is to help build the capacity of American Indian people to be self-sufficient in order to develop their respective communities and to contribute to measurable improvement in the areas of education, health, technology, and economic development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the Foundation is the enhancement of the American Indian community through education, economic development, health and environmental programmes.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Foundation for the American Indian worked with the David Lynch Foundation to collaborate with American Indian non-profit organizations to decrease post-traumatic stress among youth, veterans and the community at large. It hosted and organized a conference for American Indian leaders, to introduce transcendental meditation and to organize collaboration with American Indian non-profit organizations with American Indian health and wellness non-profit organizations to incorporate transcendental meditation into their respective wellness programmes.

The Foundation for the American Indian funded a biofuel company to convert waste to fuel and electricity for underserved communities. It is collaborating with the American Veterans Co-Op to support funding and implementation of businesses for and by American Veterans, including Native American war veterans. It provides funding for American Indian non-profit organizations that work with American Indian youth to eradicate stress and violence, and improve health and academic achievement.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The foundation coordinated meetings with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues during its sessions.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Foundation did not participate in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies since it focused its activities on the implementation of renewable energy projects in underserved communities and did fundraising to bring transcendental meditation to the American Indian community in collaboration with the number one American Indian non-profit organization in health and wellness, the National Indian Youth Leadership Project, to ameliorate youth violence, depression and drug abuse.

14. Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations is a research institute on the interface of science and politics. It improves the knowledge concerning intergenerational justice and sustainability through its profound and practice-orientated research. As an advocacy think-tank the Foundation also tries to raise the awareness of intergenerational justice and sustainability within the political area. To the Foundation, intergenerational justice means that today's youth and future generations must have at least the same opportunities to meet their own needs as the generation governing today.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's aim is not only a mere description of society but a change. It aims to provoke, challenge and ultimately, stimulate politicians to recognize the rights of future generations and to implement measures to protect them. It promotes this change through awarding an Intergenerational Justice Award to young scientists developing creative solutions for problems of intergenerational justice and sustainability every other year. Furthermore, it publishes books and the peer-reviewed *Intergenerational Justice Review* journal to enhance its knowledge of these topics. It takes part in numerous conferences around the world on topics relevant for its work, such as climate change, children's rights and sustainability and organizes its own conferences. Furthermore, it is promoting the implementation of intergenerational justice and sustainability in national constitutions as well as in conventions and treaties on the international and European level.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Foundation was very active in the field of promoting the Millennium Development Goals and the goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. This is especially true in the areas of environmental sustainability, global partnership and children's rights in the scope of universal education and child health. It participated in numerous conferences promoting these topics.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2009, the Foundation attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, and was granted observer status; and in 2010, it attended the Conference in Cancún, Mexico.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Sustainability in general and environmental sustainability in particular was promoted by the Foundation in numerous appearances in talk shows and political discussions broadcast by television and radio networks.

It published numerous scientific books on topics of sustainability between 2009 and 2012. It also published some editions of the scientific journal *Intergenerational Justice Review*. Within the scope of a scientific discussion, the Foundation is promoting research on the implementation and effectiveness of United Nations conventions, guidelines and resolutions. The invitation to assess United Nations policy and international law in the scope of an analysis of the topic is always part of the call for papers for the issues of the *Intergenerational Justice Review*.

For many years, the Foundation has hosted the European Union programme Youth In Action. By participating in the voluntary service programme, the Foundation offers young Europeans the opportunity to get involved in the field of intergenerational justice.

In May 2010, it organized a conference on the legal enforcement of intergenerational justice in Lisbon, in which international law, politics and philosophy experts discussed the means by which the rights of future generations could be implemented at the national, European and international levels.

In June 2010, the European Commission in Germany and the Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations organized a conference in Berlin to increase the profile of the strategy.

15. Fridtjof Nansen Institute

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Fridtjof Nansen Institute is a non-profit, independent institute engaged in research on international environmental, energy and resource management politics.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The institute seeks to maintain a multidisciplinary approach, with the main emphasis on political science, economics, and international law. It collaborates extensively with other institutions in Norway and abroad.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Institute organized side-events during various meetings of the United Nations as listed below.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- At the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2010, in Japan, the Institute organized a side-event, Recent developments in patent Law relevant for Genetic Resources.
- At the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2012, in India, the Institute organized a side-event.
- At the 8th meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit sharing, 2009, in Canada, the Institute organized a side-event.
- At the 9th meeting of the Working Group on Access and Benefit sharing, in Canada, 2010, the Institute organized a side-event.
- At the 1st meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol, 2011, Canada, the Institute organized a side-event.
- At the regular session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Rome, 2011, the Institute organized a side-event.
- Between 2009 and 2012, the Institute attended a large number of meetings of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), including General Assembly sessions and meetings of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents and the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties, and several meetings of subsidiary bodies.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Institute co-chaired the Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity on "Getting the biodiversity targets right-working for sustainable development" with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Trondheim, in 2010, and co-authored the Chair report.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In cooperation with the Ethiopian Institute of Biodiversity Conservation, the Institute organized a Global Consultation Conference on Farmers' Rights, in Addis Ababa, in 2010. The meeting was convened to follow up on resolution 6/2009 of the Governing Body of the Food and Agricultural Organizations of the United Nations (FAO) International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, adopted at its session in June 2009.

In March 2011, the Institute organized at Lysaker, Norway, a reflection meeting on the shaping of a Global Multilateral Benefit Sharing Mechanism, outlined in the Convention on Biological Diversity Nagoya Protocol. Many of the Institute's research projects of 2009-12 focused on development-related issues, such as farmers' rights issues (e.g., the "Farmers' Rights Project, Furthering Agro-biodiversity as a Means of Poverty Alleviation: Strategies of Civil Society Organizations"), access and benefit-sharing issues, health issues, environmental capacity-building projects, climate change adaptation, and issues in the climate/biodiversity intersection and others.

The Institute also has a number of other research projects of relevance to the United Nations that includes projects that analyse international climate negotiations, and projects related to the international law of the sea.

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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción

Special, 1989

Introduction

The organization is a private, non-profit and non-confessional institution without political affiliation. It provides charitable assistance and has as its fundamental mission the prevention of drug use and its consequences.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization was created in 1986. It works in collaboration with other civil society organizations that understand that drug problems require a supportive response that should be articulated mainly from the field of prevention. One difference is that the organization engages in formal and non-formal educational strategies to prevent drug use. It promotes preventive education at all levels (school, family and community), aiming at specific targets relating to stopping the use of drugs and other psychosocially risky behaviour.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2011, the organization changed its mission in order to focus its efforts and interests on adolescents and young people.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization's work focused on the development and implementation of education programmes regarding drug abuse prevention and on social awareness campaigns, as well as on expanding its knowledge, working mainly with governmental and local organizations in Spain and Latin America.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In cooperation with the Spanish National Commission for Cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the organization developed a teacher action award with the aim of rewarding and publicizing educational projects developed by teachers to promote social values such as solidarity, tolerance and respect and to contribute to preventing risky behaviour such as drug use, violence or racism.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In fulfilment of Goals 2, 3 and 8, the organization developed 15 training courses (online and in person) aimed at school educators and pupils. A total of 1,723 teachers and 2,345 pupils directly benefited.

2. Grameena Vikas Samithi

Special, 2001

Introduction

Grameena Vikas Samithi was formed in 1992. Its founding members have more than 20 years of experience in the field of adult education, rural development, organizing women's groups, drought management and agriculture development. The organization worked primarily in Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh State, India.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the organization is to strengthen citizens to become aware of their rights, their responsibilities and the Government's responsibilities and, together, to make the mass resources of the Government available to everyone. Its approach is to adopt inclusive and empowering ways of working with the most marginalized groups in society that respect and promote equality. The organization focused its activities on the development and implementation of dryland farming programmes, sustainable agricultural methods and social awareness campaigns regarding health care, women's empowerment and environmental sustainability activities, working mainly with grass-roots organizations in India.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A field team organized a naturopathy health education programme for the general public in the city of Tirupati, India, which empowered and educated its target groups, motivating them to think globally and act locally.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

As a member of a network for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the organization organized World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought on 17 June 2009.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

With regard to Goal 1, the organization contributed to eradicating poverty by providing dryland farming techniques that benefited 252 farmers in Chittoor district, Andhra Pradesh, India.

As to Goal 3, volunteers from the organization actively participated in a women volunteer meeting organized by the Bhumika Women's Collective to empower women by supporting helpline callers to go to courts, police stations, protection offices and family counselling centres.

On Goal 6, the organization participated in an initiative on HIV/AIDS in the city of Tirupati.

With regard to Goal 7, in 2010 the organization worked on planting pineapples, with 95 varieties procured and planted at farms to provide additional income in Andhra Pradesh. The organization organized a training camp on feed and fodder. Staff participated in the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May, World Environment Day on 5 June and Ozone Day on 16 September, all organized by the Regional Science Centre and the Government of India in the city of Tirupati.

3. Humanitarian Foundation of Canada

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Humanitarian Foundation of Canada is a non-profit organization that alleviates poverty, chronic unemployment, disease, hunger, homelessness and their causes, working worldwide, including in Canada.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its objectives are:

(a) To relieve poverty by training the unemployed and underskilled poor for jobs through self-help projects;

(b) To free children from abuse and exploitation;

(c) To provide education and relieve poverty through group communication and cooperation with self-help groups;

(d) To provide treatment and preventive health care;

(e) To further the foregoing through public and private community resources.

The Foundation alleviates poverty, unemployment, youth homelessness and hunger everywhere by providing housing, growing and processing food, providing education and health care and promoting microenterprise.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Foundation engaged in the following activities:

(a) It launched education projects in rural China as part of which it built six schools in mountain villages, provided training to enhance teaching methodologies and standards, provided education on farming techniques to reduce poverty, trained village leaders and supported the rights, health and legal protection of women. It also helped boys and girls to complete primary education;

(b) Through the Foundation, poor women received skills training with regard to business, gender equality and empowerment;

(c) Its community outreach services programme in Calgary, Canada, supported the growing community of immigrants and older persons with limited English with crisis counselling, referrals, interpreting services and other forms of support;

(d) The Foundation produced school notebooks and provided computer skills training for school dropouts in Sri Lanka;

(e) The Foundation sponsored a concert for a United Nations youth event to increase awareness of United Nations work and its contribution to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals;

(f) The Foundation financially supported the Adharshila project in New Delhi;

(g) The Foundation supported several orphanages for homeless children in Sri Lanka.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Foundation provided 750 animal husbandry training programmes for farmers and women. It also created clean water and sanitation programmes for poor communities.

4. International Association for Impact Assessment

Special, 1989

Introduction

The International Association for Impact Assessment is an educational, member-based organization for environmental professionals. It brings together researchers, practitioners and users of various types of impact assessment from all parts of the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes of the organization are:

(a) To advance state-of-the-art impact assessments in applications ranging from local to global. Impact assessment is an umbrella term that encompasses many specialties of assessment, all of which work together to form a comprehensive assessment. Of particular relevance to United Nations concerns have been environmental impact assessment, biodiversity assessment, social impact assessment

(including gender and poverty assessment), health impact assessment and integrated impact assessment;

(b) To develop international and local capability to anticipate, plan and manage the consequences of development to enhance the quality of life for all.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association's conferences, symposiums and publications support United Nations interests. Examples include:

(a) With regard to the green economy, the Association's thirtieth annual conference was hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Geneva from 6 to 11 April 2010 and focused on the role of impact assessment in transitioning to the green economy, which was in keeping with the launch by UNEP of the green economy initiative;

(b) On climate change, the Association offered special symposiums on climate change and impact assessment, held in Aalborg, Denmark, on 25 and 26 October 2010 and in Washington, D.C., on 15 and 16 November 2010, in addition to a symposium on climate change, impact assessment and disaster management, held in Washington, D.C., on 15 November 2010. The Association produced publications on climate-smart decisions and international best practice principles with regard to climate change;

(c) With regard to human rights, sessions held at annual conferences in Puebla, Mexico, and Porto, Portugal, in 2011 and 2012, respectively, addressed the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework, which have been endorsed by the Human Rights Council.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association participated in the following meetings:

(a) Meeting to discuss the final draft of a recommendation on the historic urban landscape, organized by UNESCO in Paris from 25 to 27 May 2011, at which it proposed a change (that was adopted) that reinforced heritage as a multivalent category;

(b) Fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, held in Geneva from 20 to 23 June 2011, and meetings of the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Europe;

(c) Second intersessional meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in New York on 15 and 16 December 2011, a related capacity-building workshop on 14 December 2011 and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development itself.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association's cooperation took the following forms:

(a) With regard to the World Health Organization (WHO), the Association coordinated a peer review of a WHO guide on health impact assessment in development lending and facilitated a feedback session on the draft during its tenth conference, held in Accra from 17 to 22 May 2009. It also held a joint conference in Geneva on 6 April 2010 on what health impact assessments could offer to urban development and extractive industries;

(b) It publicized efforts by UNEP to attain feedback on the implementation of the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams through its quarterly newsletter and website.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Supporting activities included the following:

(a) At its conference held in Accra from 17 to 22 May 2009, it organized two forums on what could be done to achieve the Goals;

(b) At its conference held in Geneva from 6 to 11 April 2010, it organized two sessions focused on the Goals: one on making them operational in highway infrastructure planning and the other on a Lake Volta project as a resource for green investment and meeting the Goals.

Additional information

The Association is the only international organization whose total focus is on the perfection and promotion of the use of impact assessment. Its annual conferences are the largest gathering of impact assessment experts and interested professionals, many of whom are employees of United Nations agencies.

5. International Association of Judges

Special, 1985

Introduction

The International Association of Judges was founded in Salzburg, Austria, in 1953 as a professional, non-political, international organization, bringing together not individual judges, but national associations of judges. It is currently the only association of judges worldwide. Today, the Association encompasses 80 national associations or representative groups. It has four regional groups: Europe, Ibero-America, Africa, and Asia, North America and Oceania. The Association has four study commissions, dealing with judicial administration and the status of the judiciary, civil law and procedure, criminal law and procedure, and public and social law, respectively. The sources of funding are annual membership fees.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the Association is to permit the completion of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary, adopted by the Seventh United Nations

Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, held in Milan from 26 August to 6 September 1985, and endorsed by the General Assembly at its fortieth session.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A representative of the Association was involved with justice reform in Afghanistan, which evolved from a meeting at the United Nations in March 2008.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association participated in the following meetings:

(a) Fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 18 to 22 October 2010;

(b) Nineteenth and twentieth sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 May 2010 and from 11 to 15 April 2011;

(c) Sixty-third annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference, held in Melbourne, Australia, from 30 August to 1 September 2010, at which a presentation on judicial mentoring was made.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association collaborated with the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers in Geneva in November 2012. There was cooperation with its member associations through the drafting of a manual on human rights to be used for the training of judges and in practical work.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In the context of the Millennium Development Goals, the Association, through its main representative in Geneva, is participating in the activities carried out by the non-governmental organization International Movement ATD Fourth World.

6. International Association of Women in Radio and Television

Special, 1985

Introduction

The International Association of Women in Radio and Television is a global organization formed by professional women working in electronic and allied media with a mission to strengthen initiatives towards ensuring that women's views and values are an integral part of programming and to advance the impact of women working in the media. It collaborates with media organizations, organizes

conferences, implements projects and undertakes activities for change. It has chapters in 10 countries and a worldwide membership representing five continents.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the Association is to bring public attention to media coverage of women and gender issues to counter gender stereotypes and to increase the participation of women in media organizations and in media decision-making. It aims to increase public awareness and understanding of gender issues by facilitating seminars, workshops and conferences promoting dialogue and fostering understanding for media practitioners and society at large. It funds radio and film documentaries, film festivals and competitions and awards and scholarships critical to and about women.

Significant changes in the organization

A secretariat was established in 2010 in Manila to manage the demands that came with the expansion and growth of the organization. In 2011, the secretariat was relocated to Nairobi.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The goals of the Association are matched with strategic objectives J.1 and J.2 of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, focusing on women and the media. In addition, the Association seeks to promote gender equality and empower women as part of work to attain the Millennium Development Goals. It also organizes work on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association participated in the following meetings:

(a) Since 2011, a representative has served on the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations associated with the Department of Public Information and has chaired or facilitated communications workshops;

(b) Representatives attended the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women from 2009 to 2012 and hosted side events from 2010 to 2012. In 2010, the side event dealt with mapping women's empowerment through targeted media; in 2011, it dealt with engendering technologies; and in 2012, it dealt with demystifying media at the grass-roots level;

(c) Representatives participated in meetings of the Economic and Social Council, Department of Public Information/non-governmental organization orientations and town hall meetings each year during the reporting period;

(d) In 2010, members attended a peace fair to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2012, the Association collaborated with UNESCO for a regional conference in Tunisia on the role and image of women in Tunisian media after the revolution.

UNESCO helped with the funding and the organization of the conference. In addition, the Association held a regional conference in the United Republic of Tanzania with local input from UNESCO. It focused on stakes, challenges and opportunities with regard to gender-based violence.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Association works to promote activities in support of Goal 3. It funds special projects in the areas of film, radio documentaries and drama, focusing on combating violence against women and girls. One example is a documentary and project in Kashmir on half-widows. It also produced an animated legal manual to assist non-literate people with guidelines to enable them to file missing person reports and cases against military personnel suspected of being responsible for the disappearances of loved ones. Under an anti-trafficking project in India, workshops were conducted in remote villages to train community leaders on how to identify the signs of trafficking. The workshops also presented innovative preventive models through dance therapy. Another example is a multimedia project on female genital mutilation, entitled "No to excision", in Cameroon, which includes radio, video, community meetings and theatre. Community leaders became part of the countrywide tours. The Association's chapters are carrying out gender mainstreaming surveys of national broadcast media using gender-sensitive indicators as a means of engaging broadcasters in the implementation of the principles and practice of gender equality in the media, as outlined in the Beijing Declaration.

7. International Center Innovations in Civic Participation

Special, 2009

Introduction

The organization is a global leader in the field of youth civic engagement. It envisages a world in which young people in every nation are actively engaged in improving their lives and their communities through civic participation. It believes that well-structured youth service programmes can provide innovative solutions to social and environmental issues, while helping young people to develop skills for future employment and active citizenship.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization carries out its mission through four main activities:

(a) Incubating innovative models for youth service programmes;

(b) Creating and expanding global networks;

(c) Conducting research and publicizing information on youth civic engagement, especially national youth service and service learning;

(d) Serving as a financial intermediary to support programme innovation and policy development.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Over the past four years, the organization has worked to promote asset-based youth development and to encourage volunteerism internationally. It continued to build a partnership with UNICEF for global mapping of the youth service policy environment and youth service projects, work that laid the foundations for capacity-building and scaling up with local partners. It published policy scans of the youth service policy environments in Latin America and Eastern Europe to assess national service frameworks and make recommendations to Governments, international organizations and donors who might invest in the development of youth service programmes and policies.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2012, the organization worked closely with United Nations Volunteers on programmes throughout sub-Saharan Africa. It aimed to understand and highlight the programmes that United Nations Volunteers helped to create and investigate how they might increase the employability of youth participants once they had finished their service. It subsequently featured those programmes in research papers that were disseminated to national youth service stakeholders worldwide. In June 2009, the organization was contracted by the UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean to co-produce a publication on promoting the participation of adolescent boys and girls.

The organization worked in partnership with UNICEF to conduct a training session on youth citizenship for an inter-agency training course on building effective youth investment programmes, held at the International Training Centre in Turin, Italy, from 5 to 9 October 2009.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization supported the attainment of the Goals by tackling the high rates of youth unemployment through a project on national youth service and youth employability.

8. International Critical Incident Stress Foundation

Special, 1997

Introduction

The International Critical Incident Stress Foundation is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1989. It provides education, training and crisis-support services to emergency services and military organizations, as well as to hospitals, communities, schools, Governments, businesses and industries. The

organization has an open membership and its members reside in more than 40 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to reduce the harmful effects of traumatic stress on individuals and groups by providing traumatic stress education and training in specific evidence-based trauma support processes. It continues to develop new technologies to intervene in traumatic events. It also aims at facilitating the rapid recovery of traumatized persons or the referral of those persons for psychotherapy or medical care, if needed. Although its primary objective is to provide education and training in the management of traumatic stress, it can also provide clinical consultations and direct crisis services when such services are necessary.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization held two world congresses, each lasting five days, during the reporting period, in which as many as 21 nations participated. Speakers from multiple nations and the United Nations were invited to discuss stress and trauma topics. The organization sent speakers and representatives to eight Canadian, South Pacific and European conferences on stress, trauma and coping.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization sent a certified trauma specialist to make a presentation at an international disaster conference in Paris in 2009. The conference was co-sponsored by the United Nations.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is a member of the Consultative Working Group on Stress, under the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat. It is ready to respond to United Nations requests for traumatic stress education, training and support services.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization developed special training programmes on violence prevention in which women and children are given considerable focus.

Additional information

Frequently in the course of a year, the organization receives requests for traumatic stress information or specific guidelines on managing reactions to traumatic events. Its advice was provided without cost to United Nations staff members throughout the world. It was consulted recently by organizations attempting to assist traumatized people fleeing the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic. It also provided instructor-level training to psychiatrists working with traumatized victims and recently provided resources in Egypt, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

9. International Planned Parenthood Federation

General, 1973

Introduction

The International Planned Parenthood Federation is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights. It is a worldwide movement of national community-based organizations working in 172 countries. It runs 65,000 service points worldwide, delivering more than 89 million services per year.

Aims and purposes of the organization

In 2003, the Federation adopted a new strategic framework covering the period 2005-2015 to focus its work on five priority areas: adolescents/young people (to ensure that they are aware of and can make informed choices relating to their sexual and reproductive rights), HIV and AIDS (to reduce the global incidence of and protect the rights of those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS), abortion (to reduce unsafe abortion and increase legal access), access (to sexual and reproductive health information, education and services for all, in particular the poor and marginalized) and advocacy (to increase support for sexual and reproductive health and rights).

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In 2009, on the fifteenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Federation developed a campaign to call upon Governments to fulfil their promise to provide better access to sexual and reproductive health services and information for all young people, as required by the Conference outcomes. The Federation participated in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, calling for sexual and reproductive health and rights to be included in international development. It also organized a side event to discuss population, women and rights.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Federation participated in the following meetings:

(a) Forty-second to forty-fifth sessions of the Commission on Population and Development (New York, 2009-2012). In 2009, it delivered a written statement and an oral statement and held a side event on the promises of the International Conference on Population and Development for young people. In 2011, it partnered with UNFPA and organized a joint side event on putting girls first. In 2012, it supported youth advocates from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America to engage in advocacy with their national Governments for supportive policies and programmes;

(b) Annual ministerial reviews of the Economic and Social Council (2009-2012). In 2009, the Federation delivered an oral statement on young people's sexual and reproductive health;

(c) Fifty-third to fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 2009-2012). In 2009, the Federation submitted a written statement and organized a side event on promoting sexual and reproductive empowerment;

(d) In 2009, the Federation co-sponsored a panel event on maternal mortality as part of the discussions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Federation formalized strategic partnerships with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, UNFPA and WHO. It also collaborated with the World Bank, bringing the voice of civil society to policy consultations on sexual and reproductive health. It worked very closely with those bodies, and others, on a wide variety of projects, programmes and technical issues. It also prioritized the universal periodic review process as a mechanism for its member associations to use to influence domestic policy. It trained its regional office staff in the use of the universal periodic review process and several member associations submitted shadow reports and lobbied their Governments for specific recommendations to be accepted.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Federation was an active participant in support of the Goals, both advocating the full implementation of Goals 5 and 6 and participating in the development of the post-Goals framework. To that end, it lobbied national Governments for the inclusion of sexual and reproductive health and rights in the framework, responded to the consultation launched by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the framework, participated in United Nations-led thematic discussions and suggested specific goals and indicators that should be included in the framework.

10. Islamic Relief

Special, 1993

Introduction

Islamic Relief is an international relief and development charity that envisages a caring world in which people unite to respond to the suffering of others, empowering them to fulfil their potential. It is an independent non-governmental organization that was founded in the United Kingdom in 1984. Working in more than 30 countries, it promotes sustainable economic and social development by working with local communities to eradicate poverty, illiteracy and disease. It also responds to disasters and emergencies, helping people in crisis. It provides support regardless of religion, ethnicity or gender and without expecting anything in return.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Exemplifying Islamic values, the organization will mobilize resources, build partnerships and develop local capacity as it works:

(a) To enable communities to mitigate the effects of disasters, prepare for their occurrence and respond by providing relief, protection and recovery;

(b) To promote integrated development and environmental custodianship with a focus on sustainable livelihoods;

(c) To support the marginalized and vulnerable to voice their needs and address the root causes of poverty.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Islamic Relief contributed substantially to the work of the United Nations by being a major implementing partner of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme in more than 75 projects in Afghanistan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, the Niger, the Occupied Palestinian Territory (Gaza), Pakistan, Somalia, the Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, along with sessions on advancing regional recommendations for a post-2015 development agenda.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Cooperation took the following forms:

(a) The organization is a member of the task force of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to improve the Office's faith literacy and work with faith leaders;

(b) The organization was the lead facilitator in a United Nations System Staff College learning exchange on partnering with faith-based organizations in 2010;

(c) The organization advises UNICEF on partnering with faith-based organizations.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

While implementing its projects, Islamic Relief ensured that their goals and objectives effectively contributed to fulfilling the Goals of reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and eradicating extreme poverty and hunger.

11. Korea Women's Associations United

Special, 2001

Introduction

Korea Women's Associations United works to build an equal society free from institutional discrimination in which women enjoy equal rights with men and live with dignity and pride, build a democratic society in which political, economic, social and cultural rights are fully guaranteed and achieve the peaceful reunification of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main courses of action are advocacy and lobbying for gender-responsive law and policymaking, including consensus-building activities on gender policy among diverse women's groups, public hearings, conferences, workshops, meetings and press conferences and releases; local, national and international campaigns, signature collection and cultural events; organization of gender training events and capacity-building programmes for women's movement activists; and support for local grass-roots women's organizations.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization submitted a shadow report and organized a luncheon meeting with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women during the forty-ninth session of the Committee, held in Geneva from 11 to 29 July 2011.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the Asian and Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Seoul on 19 and 20 October 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization took the following initiatives:

(a) It participated in an Asia-Pacific civil society workshop on the Group of 20 and development, held in Seoul on 29 and 30 July 2010;

(b) It participated in a dialogue between civil society representatives and officials preparing for the Group of 20 summit, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 14 and 15 October 2010;

(c) It organized gender justice action during the summit of the Group of 20, held in Seoul on 11 and 12 November 2010;

(d) It participated in a gender justice workshop during the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 29 November to 1 December 2011.

12. Korean Council for Local Agenda 21

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Korean Council for Local Agenda 21 is a voluntary national network to assist with local-level capacity-building for the local-level implementation of Agenda 21. It has direct involvement in sustainable development planning.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the organization is activating programmes for the sustainable development of residents, businesses and local administrators in order to improve local environments and sustainable development.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization is submitting a request to change its name to Local Sustainability Alliance of Korea.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contributions were specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No initiatives were specified.

13. Korean Foundation for World Aid

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Korean Foundation for World Aid works to help Koreans living in the Republic of Korea and abroad to cooperate towards the country's unification and prosperity and contribute to the promotion of world peace and well-being.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Foundation's purpose is to provide food for needy children, modernize hospitals, share medicine and commodities, provide agricultural assistance in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, undertake general relief work, development relief work and hygiene and medical treatment work, undertake child sponsorship programmes in Asia, the Middle East and Africa and ensure multicultural family care in the Republic of Korea.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributed by helping children in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, supporting education and local communities and advancing medical health technology and emergency relief.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization carried out humanitarian activities with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to provide relief in Chile, Haiti, Japan and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to the attainment of the Goals in Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Haiti, Indonesia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam. This included providing nutritional care to 7,839,548 children, 250 chickens to 50 households and food to 3,696 people in Haiti. It also provided 7.5 tons of baby food, medical examinations to 50 pregnant women, HIV check-ups to 950 people, in-kind donations of medical supplies to hospitals and emergency relief to Haiti.

The organization contributed to the attainment of the Goals in Cambodia, China, Japan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam by providing primary education to 35,707 children and scholarships to 439 students; books and school supplies to 60 facilities; adult education to 13,479 teachers; seven water tanks (including wells) that benefited 41,220 people; 50,000 trees; 12 public restrooms to 12 schools; health education to 1,030 children; multicultural education to 298 couples; economic education to 220 immigrants; $100,000 for removing radioactivity; information technology education to 70 children; computers to 129 teachers; and construction materials for 36 classrooms and five houses. The organization also contributed to the attainment of the Goals in the Republic of Korea and Viet Nam by providing medical operations to 32 patients.

14. Law Association for Asia and the Pacific

Special, 1981

Introduction

The Law Association for Asia and the Pacific is an international organization of lawyers' associations, individual lawyers, judges, legal academics and others. It focuses on the interests and concerns of the legal profession in Asia and the Pacific, specifically among the States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. Its governing body comprises representatives of legal bodies in 30 countries. It has individual members in more than 50 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association's main objective is to foster professional and business relations between lawyers in Asia and the Pacific. It lays strong emphasis on defending and promoting the rule of law in a diverse range of political, cultural, social and economic contexts throughout the region. Its objectives include:

(a) To promote the administration of justice, the protection of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law within the region;

(b) To advance the standard of legal education within the region by all practicable means;

(c) To enhance the development of members' legal practices and their professional and business relations within the region;

(d) To promote the development of the law within the region;

(e) To promote uniformity within the region in appropriate fields of law;

(f) To foster relations and interaction between lawyers and associations and organizations of lawyers within the region;

(g) To uphold and advance the status of the legal profession within the region.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

As a voice for the legal profession of Asia and the Pacific, the Association regularly released public comments on situations in the region that infringed on human and legal rights and the rule of law. It also devised statements of principle, with the aim that its member organizations would bring them to the attention of national Governments. In that aspect of its work, it consistently referred to United Nations mechanisms and instruments and encouraged strong adherence thereto. It placed particular emphasis on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

A representative regularly observed sessions of the Human Rights Council during the reporting period. A representative also attended the first session of the Forum on Business and Human Rights, held in Geneva in December 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Aside from regular observation of sessions of the Human Rights Council, the Association built a relationship with the UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office in connection with its work in devising and promulgating the Declaration on Children's Rights and the Siem Reap Principles. The Office's Regional Adviser was instrumental in drafting the Principles.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

By offering legal education in environmental law, the Association supported Goal 7. Similarly, its work in promoting the protection of children in Asia and the Pacific through legal education and the promulgation of principles specifically supported Goals 1 to 4.

Additional information

The Association has a particular current focus on supporting and promoting the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. It devised a statement of principle in this regard, adopted as policy by its governing body (Singapore Declaration on Business and Human Rights). It noted the developments at UNICEF in devising the Children's Rights and Business Principles and will be working similarly to promote regional adherence through regionally based legal education.

15. Tebtebba Foundation

Special, 2001

Introduction

The Tebtebba Foundation is an indigenous peoples' organization and a research, education and policy advocacy and resource centre working with indigenous peoples at all levels and in all arenas. It seeks the recognition and promotion of indigenous peoples' rights and aspirations while building unities to uphold social and environmental justice. It will achieve this by reinforcing the capacity of indigenous peoples with regard to advocacy, campaigns and networking and research, education, training and institutional development, as well as by actively articulating and projecting the views and aspirations of indigenous peoples.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the organization is to achieve its work through its desks on networking, advocacy and campaigns; research, education and documentation; publications; gender; legal affairs; and resources.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization made the following contributions:

(a) It co-organized the celebration in Metro Manila of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on 9 August 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012;

(b) It co-organized the celebration in the city of Baguio, the Philippines, of the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May 2011 and 2012;

(c) It co-organized Asia preparatory meetings for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held from 1 to 4 March 2010 in Dhaka, from 26 to 28 February 2011 in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and from 12 to 15 February 2012 in Toraja, Indonesia;

(d) In 2012, it engaged in various activities for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, including drafting the indigenous peoples major group submission for the zero draft of the outcome document and co-organizing an international conference of indigenous peoples on self-determination and sustainable development and the indigenous peoples' pavilion. It also produced a publication on sustaining and enhancing indigenous peoples' self-determined development;

(e) It co-organized the Asia preparatory meeting for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held on 8 and 9 November 2012, and the Asia-Pacific regional workshop in preparation for the Indigenous Peoples' Forum, held on 10 and 11 November 2012, both in Bangkok.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings:

(a) Eighth to eleventh sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (New York, 2009-2012);

(b) Seventeenth to nineteenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York, 2009-2011);

(c) Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development, held in New York from 28 February to 4 March 2011;

(d) Sixty-fourth annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference, held in Bonn, Germany, from 3 to 5 September 2011;

(e) Initial discussions on the zero draft of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in New York from 25 to 27 January 2012;

(f) Third intersessional meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in New York from 19 to 27 March 2012;

(g) Second round of informal-informal negotiations on the zero draft of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in New York from 23 April to 4 May 2012;

(h) Informal consultations on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in New York from 29 May to 2 June 2012;

(i) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and sustainable development dialogue days, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 19 to 22 June 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization's cooperation took the following forms:

(a) It co-organized with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues an international expert group meeting on extractive industries, indigenous peoples' rights and corporate social responsibility, held in Manila from 27 to 29 March 2009;

(b) It was designated as the regional intermediary for Asia and the Pacific for the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility of the International Fund for Agricultural Development to oversee the implementation of nine small grants to indigenous peoples in seven countries from 2011 to 2014;

(c) In 2012, it co-organized with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity an Asian regional indigenous and local community preparatory meeting for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention, held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 9 to 12 July;

(d) It received funding from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for a global study on violence against indigenous girls, adolescents and young people;

(e) It received funding from the Fund for Gender Equality for a two-year project on a global leadership school for indigenous women in Asia for Nepal and the Philippines, as well as from the World Bank to organize a global dialogue of indigenous peoples with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the Bank, held in Doha on 10 and 11 December 2012.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

With regard to Goal 1, the organization provided support for traditional sustainable livelihoods towards strengthening traditional forest management, conservation of forests and reducing poverty in 14 indigenous communities in 11 countries through a project on enhancing rights protection and ensuring effective participation of and securing fair benefits for indigenous peoples in REDD-plus policies and programmes. In 2012, it engaged with the Department of Social Welfare and Development of the Philippines on the Government's conditional cash transfer programme for poverty alleviation.

As to Goal 3, in 2009 it implemented a project supported by the United Nations Development Fund for Women on monitoring and documentation workshops for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, held in Cambodia and Thailand. From 2011 to 2012, it conducted research on the role of indigenous women in forest management in Cameroon, the Philippines and Viet Nam. It also undertook capacity-building for indigenous women on climate change and forest/land tenure from 25 to 29 April 2011 and in August 2012, both in Baguio, the Philippines.

With regard to Goal 7, it implemented a capacity-building project for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in pilot communities in the Philippines to support biological diversity, traditional knowledge and traditional livelihoods.

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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Maharashtra Foundation

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Maharashtra Foundation is a unique, volunteer-supported, non-profit organization based in the United States of America working with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in India, mainly in the State of Maharashtra.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the Foundation is social and economic justice for all. The Foundation focuses on education, health, empowerment of women and children's welfare in selecting the NGOs with which it works. The NGOs must have a proven record of working at the grass-roots level. The Foundation members visit the NGOs during their visits to India and report on their activities to the Foundation.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In support of the Millennium Development Goals, the Foundation supported a number of projects during the period 2009-2012. In the area of women's empowerment, shelter services for victims of domestic violence were offered. Increasing awareness of and building confidence against violence was the focus of projects in India and the United States. In the area of efforts to combat human trafficking, the Foundation supported a project offering after-school care for the children of sex workers in the red-light district of Mumbai, in addition to supporting projects and programmes in Marathwada and Amravati districts, Maharashtra State.

In the health sector, the Foundation supported projects to supply safe drinking water to rural schools in Solapur and Phaltan. Currently, a 20-bed hospital is under construction in the rural coastal area of Maharashtra State. For the past three years, the Foundation has been conducting youth wellness and health camps with Jnana Prabodhini, an NGO, in Harali, Maharashtra State, where some 400 children from schools and surrounding village areas are examined by doctors (paediatricians, dentists and psychologists) and volunteers from the United States. The haemoglobin data indicated improvements consistent with treatment. In 2011, work against female infanticide was an additional feature of the camp. Women from surrounding villages received sex, health and social education.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Foundation attended the third working session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, held in New York in August 2012, representing the Janaseva Foundation of Pune, India. Members of the Maharashtra Foundation attended no other meetings or international conferences of the Council and its subsidiary bodies, given that the Foundation focused its activities on the development and implementation of programmes and campaigns.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Activities are included above under the section "Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations".

2. Migrants Rights International

Special, 2001

Introduction

Migrants Rights International was founded in Cairo in September 1994 as the International Migrants Rights Watch Committee, at the time of the International Conference on Population and Development. Since then, the organization has grown to become a global non-governmental civil society alliance of migrant associations, human rights, labour, religious, academic and other organizations that operate at the local, national, regional and international levels.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's mission is to advocate respect for and protection and fulfilment of the full range of human rights of migrants around the world and to foster unity and the inclusion of migrant voices at all levels of policymaking.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2012, the organization co-founded and currently coordinates a new global civil society coalition, the Global Coalition on Migration, which brings together the world's largest international and regional civil society networks working on migration. This body brings together and streamlines civil society input on migration framework-setting and policymaking, especially through the United Nations and related processes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributed to the work of the United Nations by participating in the following meetings and events:

(a) Selected sessions of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 2009 to 2012, at which the organization presented oral and written statements and organized side events and civil society delegations;

(b) Ninth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held in Geneva in November 2010, at which the national report of the United States was considered: the organization co-submitted a shadow report and co-organized a civil society panel with the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights;

(c) Fifty-fourth to fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 2010-2012), at which the organization organized side events and presented oral and written statements;

(d) Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 29 November to 10 December 2010, at which it organized side events and presented materials on climate change and migration;

(e) Global Forum on Migration and Development: the organization was a member of the international advisory committee for the civil society days and organized delegations and side events in Athens in November 2009, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, in November 2010, Geneva in December 2011 and Port Louis in November 2012.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The participation of the organization is as stated above.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization cooperated with the Human Rights Council, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Global Migration Group, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development and the Office of the President of the General Assembly, among others.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization co-wrote and promoted the post-2015 development agenda as part of the outcomes of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. The organization participated in global civil society consultations on population dynamics for the post-2015 development agenda.

Additional information

While the Global Forum on Migration and Development is not a direct part of the United Nations, the organization took a leadership role in civil society participation and contribution to the Forum process, including advocating a formal relationship with the United Nations framework.

3. National Tropical Botanical Garden

Special, 1997

Introduction

The mission of the National Tropical Botanical Garden is to enrich life through discovery, scientific research, conservation and education by perpetuating the survival of the plants, ecosystems and cultural knowledge of tropical regions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Through its network of botanical gardens, state-of-the-art research and horticulture complexes and living and resource collections, the organization's purposes are to establish, develop, operate and maintain an educational and scientific centre with libraries, herbaria, laboratories and museums to encourage and conduct research in basic and applied tropical botany; to foster and encourage fundamental research in tropical plant life and study the uses of tropical flora in agriculture, forestry, horticulture, medicine and other sciences; to share knowledge acquired relative to basic and applied tropical botany through publications and other media; to collect and cultivate tropical flora; to preserve species of tropical plant life threatened with extinction; and to provide a facility that contributes to the education, instruction and recreation of the public. The organization also has a new, multi-million-dollar botanic research centre, designed to be environmentally sustainable, which was awarded LEED gold certification, making it the first building on the island of Kaua'i recognized under the rating system.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Contributions included undertaking activities that supported and advanced global conservation efforts, sharing scientific data and resources, publishing new botanical manuscripts, conducting biodiversity surveys, supporting graduate research fellowships in botany, undertaking restoration projects in botanical preserves and carrying out activities that promoted cultural and ethnobotanic knowledge.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization did not participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, in major conferences or in other United Nations meetings during the reporting period because it focused its activities on the development and implementation of programmes on native plant conservation, ecosystem restoration and educational programmes for underserved youth, working directly with governmental and other non-governmental organizations. The organization would have been more active in the implementation of United Nations programmes if not for its scarce funds and few representative staff, which hampered attendance at international meetings.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

One of the most noteworthy initiatives that the organization undertook in the past four years was the Global Hunger Initiative, under which the organization's Breadfruit Institute researched, propagated and distributed breadfruit plants to areas where hunger is an issue. It distributed nutritious and prolific breadfruit plants to

Costa Rica, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, as well as to American Samoa, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. The organization also continued the primary work that it has been doing for nearly 50 years (from which the breadfruit project evolved), namely conservation of the natural environment, preservation of biodiversity and ensuring environmental sustainability, as indicated by the activities mentioned in the previous sections. It also implemented various education programmes that engaged children of all ages in conservation efforts, environmental stewardship and preservation of ethnobotanic practices and helped them to prepare for green careers. In addition, the organization offered an environmental journalism fellowship programme to better prepare journalists to understand and cover environmental issues, in addition to a programme for science teachers to help them to understand and teach their pupils about the environment.

4. National Youth Council of Russia

Special, 2009

Introduction

The main aim of the National Youth Council of Russia is to support and coordinate the activities of Russian youth and children's organizations in order to encourage the protection and realization of their interests and the rights of children and young people.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Council carries out these aims by cooperating with legislative bodies, interacting with executive bodies on young people, preparing educational seminars, encouraging and helping young people to participate in training courses and other events, publishing information and other material on and for youth and children's organizations, engaging in public relations efforts and promoting the work of children's and youth organizations, and representing the interests of Russian children's and youth organizations at the international level. The Council is a full member of the European Youth Forum and has observer status in the World Assembly of Youth.

Significant changes in the organization

The position of Executive Director was established in the statutes under article 4.18. The Executive Director can be elected and dismissed by the Board on the proposal of the Chair of the Council. The Executive Director is expected to act without power of attorney on behalf of the Council and represent its interests in relation to public authorities, businesses and non-profit, international and other organizations; to sign contracts and agreements involving the Council (with property and financial obligations); and to appoint and dismiss staff members of the Council, to allocate responsibilities among them and to impose penalties on them and make rewards. The Executive Director has the right to sign financial documents, to issue orders and instructions within the area of his or her competence and to ensure the implementation of the statutes and governing documents of the Council.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Council is implementing a youth delegate programme in the Russian Federation, giving an opportunity for young representatives of Russian civil society to participate in meetings of the United Nations and ensuring that the voices of Russian young people are heard at the global level.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives attended the following meetings:

(a) Sixty-fourth and sixty-sixth sessions of the General Assembly, held in New York in 2009 and 2011;

(b) Forty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development, held in New York from 9 to 18 February 2011;

(c) Fourth Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held in Doha from 11 to 13 December 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Council is actively working on Goal 3 (promote gender equality and empower women). It calls for young women to participate in society and in the work of civil society, encouraging them, among other things, to participate in the work and events of the Council and its member organizations, ensuring fair treatment and gender balance in all cases. One of the key areas of work of the Council is education, both formal and non-formal. Most of the Goals are tackled during its events.

5. Partnership Africa Canada

Special, 1997

Introduction

Partnership Africa Canada has its headquarters in Ottawa and is governed by a board of directors drawn in equal numbers from Canada and Africa. The organization works globally, but has a special focus on Africa.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works in partnership with organizations in Africa, Canada and internationally to build sustainable human development in Africa. It undertakes research and policy dialogue on issues affecting African development. During the period in question, its programmes focused on peace and human security, human rights and good governance. The organization has a particular focus on the mineral sector in Central and West Africa and on transparency in the extractive sector generally.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization's liaison office in Addis Ababa closed in 2009.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

As a member of the Kimberley Process, the organization helped to implement General Assembly resolution 55/56 with regard to the work of the Process in developing an international system to prevent conflict diamonds. This included specific action in such countries as Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, where the organization collaborated closely with the Panel of Experts on Liberia.

With the support of the United Nations, the organization created, for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, a regional certification mechanism for tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold. The organization is the lead partner of the International Conference in the implementation of the mechanism and was a key contributor to the development and implementation of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas. As such, the organization is directly contributing to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1952 (2010), which supports taking forward the due diligence recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In addition to providing technical support for natural resource governance and mineral certification in the Great Lakes region, the organization conducted and published research relating to sexual and other forms of gender-based violence and was active in promoting the United Nations women and peace and security agenda in the Great Lakes region throughout all its programming areas and in Canada. It coordinated the development of the Canadian action plan for the implementation of Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security. Current programming examines women's participation in artisanal mining in the Great Lakes region and seeks to develop and pilot meaningful implementation of relevant national action plans on women and peace and security in the context of resource governance and peacebuilding.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012. The organization was also an active contributor to the biannual meetings of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and United Nations Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization was approached by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UN-Women, the Peacebuilding Support Office and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to act as a peer reviewer for their joint policy report on women, natural resources and peacebuilding, *Women and Natural Resources: Unlocking the Peacebuilding Potential*.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization considers its work to be supportive of many of the Goals.

6. Pax Romana

Special, 1949

Introduction

Pax Romana is an international NGO with two branches, the International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs (for professionals and intellectuals, with 27 organizations present in 26 countries) and the International Movement of Catholic Students (for university students, with 79 organizations present in 74 countries on five continents).

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is working to promote an ethical perspective on education, social development, peace and security, human rights, financing for development, sustainable development, children, young people, women's issues, the rights of indigenous peoples, fundamental codes of conduct for transnational corporations, fair wages and workers' rights, international tax cooperation and transparency, global financial international institutions promoting transparency and justice, international governance and corruption and interreligious and intercultural dialogue.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings during the reporting period:

(a) In Geneva: the tenth to twenty-third regular sessions and the eleventh, thirteenth and fifteenth special sessions of the Human Rights Council;

(b) In New York: the official launch of the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding at the General Assembly, held on 12 August 2010; the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held from 20 to 22 September 2010; the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on youth: dialogue and mutual understanding, held on 25 and 26 July 2011; the forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions of the Commission for Social Development, held in February 2011 and February 2012; the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 1 to 12 March 2010; and the forty-fifth session of the Commission on Population and Development, held from 23 to 27 April 2012;

(c) In Vienna: the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, fifth session (held from 18 to 22 October 2010); the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, reconvened eighteenth session (held on 3 and 4 December 2009), twentieth session (held from 11 to 15 April 2011) and twenty-first session (held from 23 to 27 April 2012); and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, reconvened fifty-second session (held on 1 and 2 December 2009), fifty-fourth session (held from 21 to 25 March 2011) and fifty-fifth session (held from 12 to 16 March 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization participated in the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the UNESCO Youth Forum and in the work of joint programmatic commissions on dialogue between cultures for peace, poverty eradication and human rights. The organization also participated in the work of UNEP and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Nairobi.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization took initiatives in the following areas:

(a) On 14 and 15 June 2010, the organization participated in the informal interactive hearings organized by the General Assembly as part of the preparatory process for the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals;

(b) In January 2011, the organization organized a training programme, entitled "Assessing the past for a better future: HIV/AIDS is still a reality", for East African young people;

(c) In June 2011, the organization organized a training programme, entitled "Good governance and leadership, our key to development: African youth up against corruption", for Southern African participants;

(d) The organization organized an annual human rights internship programme in Geneva during the period 2009-2012;

(e) The organization organized an annual global leadership programme for law students at the United Nations in New York during the period 2009-2012;

(f) On 17 and 18 March 2011, the organization organized a study session on empowering young women for the new millennium in New York;

(g) In July 2011, the organization organized a study session in Cologne, Germany, ongoing beyond borders, with 200 participants from 80 countries brought together to discuss challenges facing the future development work of the United Nations;

(h) The organization organized a United Nations study session on the role of student activism in poverty eradication from 14 to 16 March 2012, with great emphasis on the Millennium Development Goals and other critical aspects of the United Nations development agenda.

7. Public Services International

Special, 1997

Introduction

Public Services International is the global union federation for public sector trade unions. Founded in 1907, it currently represents 671 affiliated trade unions in 152 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization coordinates public sector struggles for workers' rights, social and economic justice and efficient and accessible public services. Together, the affiliated unions organize more than 20 million public sector workers, providing services in central government, health and social care, municipal and community services and public utilities. The organization campaigns to improve the quality of public services, working closely with international organizations, national Governments, consumer lobbies, community organizations, non-governmental organizations and unions.

Significant changes in the organization

At the organization's world congress in 2012, its constitution was amended to include, in its principles and objectives, reference to advocating social justice through the United Nations system, including the International Labour Organization (ILO), and to promote and implement the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of ILO by increasing the active participation of indigenous peoples in its programme of action for 2013-2017. At the congress, Rosa Pavanelli was appointed as the first ever female General Secretary of the organization.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization:

(a) Sponsored and disseminated research on access to public services; contributed to the work of the Economic Commission for Europe on public services; made submissions to the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation; successfully advocated to have ILO join UN-Water; developed campaigns to end violence against women, in parallel with the Commission on the Status of Women; disseminated and integrated the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women into its work on gender issues; promoted ILO conventions and recommendations and other United Nations instruments; and supported affiliate members in their use of ILO and other United Nations mechanisms;

(b) Contributed to the *World Youth Report* and promoted its participatory mechanisms; organized trade union rights campaigns referring to ILO and United Nations mechanisms, country-based as well as globally; collaborated with ILO on trade union rights, labour migration, public services and many other fields; and strongly supported the Social Protection Floor Initiative and its implementation in all countries.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the organization's strongest focus was on preserving the language on the right to water in the official text and strengthening campaigning and links with civil society through work at the parallel People's Summit. The organization was an invited speaker at the dialogue days organized by Brazil, with the support of the United Nations, from 16 to 19 June 2012. The organization's representatives in official forums advocated against privatization and in favour of a social protection floor, high-quality public services and the need for fair taxation to fund public services.

The Commission on the Status of Women is an important platform for public service unions and other global federations. The organization's objective is to ensure that labour issues are appropriately included in the resolutions of the Commission and that trade unions are recognized as important partners in the struggle for equality. A progressive organization, the organization works together with civil society for a more inclusive and rights-based approach. The organization also actively participates in the International Labour Conference, both at the preparatory stage and during the Conference, to ensure that public sector issues are addressed adequately.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is a member of the Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation, a member of the steering committee of the UN-Habitat Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance programme and the main partner for ILO public service sector activities. It cooperates with the World Health Organization (WHO) on health policies and the rights of health workers.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization developed the public-public partnership concept for development assistance between water utilities. It engaged in successful advocacy with the European Union on creating a specific aid fund for public utilities in the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States. It provided education programmes to its members in 152 countries on the Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda and contributed to the work of the ILO Bureau for Workers' Activities on the Goals and on the post-2015 development agenda.

8. Save the Children International

General, 1993

Introduction

Save the Children is the world's leading independent organization for children. It works in humanitarian and development contexts. In 2012, it touched the lives of more than 125 million children worldwide.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's vision is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation. Its mission is to inspire breakthroughs in the way in which the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives. It works principally in the areas of health and nutrition, education, child protection and child rights governance.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has an integrated structure that enables it to manage its programmes around the world and speak with one voice. It is in the process of joining forces with Merlin, an international health charity.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization supports the work of the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health by partnering with the Every Woman, Every Child initiative and co-sponsoring events for the United Nations community.

The organization actively supports the Economic and Social Council and contributes regularly to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Population and Development by organizing events on the chosen theme with a focus on children's rights and bringing in experts from around the world to serve as panellists.

The organization provides briefings to the Working Group of the Security Council on Children and Armed Conflict and also through bilateral meetings with Council members.

It actively participates in the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Non-Governmental Organizations Working Group on the Security Council. The organization also participates in the monthly meetings conducted by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs with civil society organizations and provides briefings upon request.

The organization participates in the civil society network that proposes suggestions for the universal periodic review process for countries in which it works.

The organization participates in meetings of the UNICEF Executive Board and makes recommendations in areas in which it works.

The organization works with the foreign policy and global health group on its annual resolution in the General Assembly, providing technical expertise and suggesting textual edits.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participates in United Nations international conferences, such as the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Representatives attended the day of general discussion of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the rights of all children in the context of international

migration, held in Geneva in September 2012, and the organization helped two children to speak to the Committee about their personal experiences.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is operational in more than 120 countries and works closely with the United Nations and its various agencies in each country. The organization signed a letter of cooperation with UNICEF identifying critical priority areas for collaboration in 2012. It contributed to the annual report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict at the field level in various countries between 2009 and 2012. The organization co-leads the Global Education Cluster.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The breakthroughs of the organization in education and in health and nutrition are directed towards achieving targets under Goals 1 to 5. Its "Rewrite the future" campaign (2006-2010) directly supported the achievement of Goal 2 and benefited more than 10 million children, securing access to education for 1.64 million. The organization's current global "Every one" campaign aims to help to achieve Goal 4. Annually, the organization releases a report on the state of the world's mothers in which the challenges to achieving Goals 4 and 5 are highlighted.

9. Social Accountability International

Special, 1997

Introduction

Social Accountability International is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving workplaces and communities by developing and implementing social responsibility standards.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization brings together stakeholders, companies, NGOs, trade unions and Governments to carry out research, training and technical assistance programmes. It works with international brands and retailers, various trade unions that represent more than 15 million workers and NGOs. The organization partners with a global network of auditing groups known as "certification bodies", which certify companies and production facilities to the SA8000 standard. The organization's SA8000 standard is a leading standard that incorporates third-party monitoring and innovative management systems. As a voluntary standard, it provides a sustainable framework for improved social performance that is robust while being flexible and pragmatic. The organization operates globally, with offices in Brazil, China, India, the Netherlands, Nicaragua and the United States. The standard is based on ILO and United Nations conventions and is therefore viewed as incorporating the most robust principles with regard to workplace human rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participated in a variety of meetings organized by the United Nations, including those of the Economic and Social Council. Examples include ILO briefing sessions on various issues, such as labour rights and forced labour.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization worked with the Global Compact and UN-Women to research and develop tools to promote labour rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization participated in meetings of the Global Compact, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises and the Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights. The organization is a founding member of and participant in the steering committee for the Business Principles for Countering Bribery.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to the attainment of the Goals in Central America, South America, Africa and Asia. Major actions taken were the following:

(a) Goal 1: the organization implemented labour rights/wage standards as defined in the SA8000 standard, which covers more than 1 million workers in more than 2,000 certified facilities and in 68 countries;

(b) Goal 3: the organization worked on a programme with the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland covering thousands of women in India working in the garment sector. The organization also has a large presence in the garment sector in Bangladesh, providing labour rights and fire safety training. Garment workers represent the largest percentage of workers in SA8000-certified facilities, in which nearly 300,000 workers are employed. Women constitute more than 80 per cent of workers in the garment industry and the promotion of the standard ensures that they are protected from discriminatory practices within the workplace and promotes stability for their families;

(c) Goal 7: the organization continues to work in the agricultural sector in China and Central America (the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua) on crops such as cotton, sugar cane and coffee. The main objective of the programmes is to protect the labour rights of farmers and to ensure that employers, workers, trade unions and government ministries adhere to national and international labour legislation.

The organization also worked with World Wide Fund for Nature International on the development of integrated standards (environmental and social) in aquaculture. Additional joint programmes are under consideration.

10. Society for International Development

General, 1981

Introduction

The Society for International Development is an international network of individuals and organizations founded in 1957 to promote social justice and foster democratic participation in the development process. Through locally driven programmes and activities, the Society strengthens collective empowerment, facilitates dialogue and knowledge-sharing on people-centred development strategies and promotes policy change towards inclusiveness, equity and sustainability. The Society has more than 30 chapters and 3,000 members in more than 50 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Society's vision and fundamental values include respect for human dignity and rights and utmost commitment to social justice and gender equality, commitment to people-centred sustainable development, appreciation for ethnic, cultural, religious and political diversity and recognition that global public goods require shared commitment and international cooperation.

Significant changes in the organization

The Society's worldwide membership approved slight modifications to its constitution in 2011, the most significant change being a reduction in the size of its governing body. Over the past four years, the organization also advanced its process of decentralization. While maintaining its official headquarters in Rome, many functions were devolved to the local offices in Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Buenos Aires, La Paz, The Hague and Washington, D.C.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Society's work closely relates to the work of the United Nations at the national, regional and global levels. This is best exemplified by the line-up of issues of the Society's quarterly journal *Development*:

(a) 2009 issues on sexuality and development (March); power, movements and change (June); beyond economics (September); and xenophobia, culture and identity (December);

(b) 2010 issues on new institutions for development (March); gender and empowerment (June); sustaining local economies (September); and education for transformation (December);

(c) 2011 issues on global land grabs (March); challenges to sustainability (June); sustainable cities (September); and cosmovisions (December);

(d) 2012 issues on greening the economy (March); citizenship for change (June); gender and economic justice (September); and African strategies for transformation (December).

Beyond their wide distribution, all these issues are presented and debated by the worldwide network of the Society's chapters.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Society regularly attended key meetings of the following United Nations bodies: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, UNEP, UN-Habitat, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UN-Women. Key United Nations events in New York attended included the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 1-12 March 2010) and the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Beyond its regular work that closely engages many United Nations agencies (such as UN-Women, UNDP, UNFPA, UNIDO and the Rome-based organizations) at both the global and national levels (the Society's chapters), the Society worked closely with several United Nations bodies in the 2009-2012 period. Four key examples include:

(a) Cooperation with UNDP for the Platform Human Development 2010 initiative (the Society's Managing Director co-chaired the working group on the *Human Development Report*);

(b) The joint technical cooperation project between the Society and UNFPA on responses to the care crises, 2010-2011;

(c) The Society's 2011 world congress on the theme "Our common challenge: a world moving towards a sustainable future", attended by the Assistant Administrator of UNDP, the Director General of UNIDO and the Executive Director of UNFPA, among other United Nations representatives, in addition to the President and the Managing Director of the World Bank and the President of the African Development Bank;

(d) The March 2012 issue of the Society's journal, *Development*, on greening the economy, produced in partnership with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

While most of its activities are directly related to Goals 1, 3 and 8, the Society was extremely engaged in the review of the Goals framework and the post-2015 development agenda. In particular, the Society served as an adviser to the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda from September 2012. The Society's journal, *Development*, regularly featured key issues and dialogues with regard to the Goals and the post-2015 development agenda.

11. Society for Threatened Peoples

Special, 1993

Introduction

The Society for Threatened Peoples is a human rights organization that advocates the rights of ethnic and religious minorities around the world. It has played a major role in the United Nations by promoting the rights of indigenous peoples and by supporting the drafting of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Society campaigns with and on behalf of threatened and persecuted ethnic and religious minorities, nationalities and indigenous peoples. It stands side by side with the victims of crimes against humanity, identifying the individual perpetrators of such crimes and their accomplices by name. The main activities of the Society focused on its participation in the work of the Human Rights Council, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and several subcommissions.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Society consistently campaigned for food security and against land grabs. It regularly calls for linkages to be drawn between economic development and environmental sustainability.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization's participation included attendance at the tenth to twenty-first sessions of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva, as well as the submission of written and oral statements. It sponsored side events at the eleventh, fifteenth, sixteenth, nineteenth and twenty-first sessions of the Council (from 2009 to 2012). It also sponsored a side event immediately before the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

During the reporting period, the Society provided written submissions to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review at its sixth, eighth, ninth, eleventh, twelfth, fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth sessions, held in Geneva. It also presented an oral statement at the eleventh session of the Working Group and an oral statement at the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009. The Society submitted a shadow report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in June 2009.

Society representatives attended the ninth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, held in Bangkok from 28 September to 9 October 2009, and Barcelona, Spain, from 2 to 6 November 2009; the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 18 December 2009; the fifty-third, fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions of

the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in Vienna in March 2010, 2011 and 2012; the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 29 November to 10 December 2010; the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 7 February to 9 March 2012; the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; and the fifth session of the Forum on Minority Issues, held in Geneva in November 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Society jointly lobbied with the World Food Programme for greater food security.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Society continued to support solar cooker programmes for refugees from Darfur. It lobbies for food security, support for pastoralists and the establishment of linkages between economic development and ethical economic practices. Together with local authorities, the Society supported the medical situation of albinos in the United Republic of Tanzania. The Society continued to lobby on behalf of slaves and former slaves in Mauritania.

12. Trauma Foundation

Special, 2001

Introduction

The Trauma Foundation is a founding member of the International Action Network on Small Arms and since 2001 has been a regular participant in activities under the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the Foundation, founded in 1981, is to reduce injuries and injury-related deaths through prevention, improved trauma care and improved rehabilitation. A major focus of the Foundation's prevention activities has been firearm-related injuries and deaths.

The Foundation works in California with local communities and state policymakers on the proliferation of dangerous firearms in the United States, which resulted in bans on junk guns (1999) and .50 calibre sniper rifles (2004), as well as other small arms control measures. In 1998, it founded the Bell Campaign, the first national survivor-led gun control movement in the United States. In 2000, the movement became known as the Million Mom March.

Since 1998, the Foundation has received funding for research on international gun control issues and provided information to the international gun control community through the Foundation website.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Foundation is a sponsor of the website GunPolicy.org, the world's largest website in support of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, its goals, monitoring and implementation. The website received 1.5 million unique visitors during the reporting period and points thousands of hyperlinks to the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat (www.poa-iss.org) in support of the Programme of Action.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

One or more representatives of the Foundation have attended and most often presented research findings at every biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and at each United Nations conference to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

In recent years, the Foundation has often been invited to attend the conferences as an NGO delegate on the government delegation of a Member State and/or as the regional representative of the International Action Network on Small Arms, the NGO appointed by the Office for Disarmament Affairs to manage civil society attendance at the meetings.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Foundation collaborates with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office for Disarmament Affairs, WHO, the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and other United Nations agencies to disseminate relevant data and research findings concerning the Programme of Action to a global Internet audience.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

At each major meeting of the Programme of Action process in New York, a Foundation representative also arranged for the attendance of regional representatives and survivors of gun violence, in particular from the Pacific region and almost always a member of a women's group, to speak on the adverse impact on the Goals of the proliferation and misuse of illicit small arms in Oceania.

13. Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik

Special, 2009

Introduction

The organization is an Austria-wide NGO with regional roots. The organization focuses on ecological, economic and socially sustainable development and is committed to reducing the gap between the North and the South.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization stands for a just world economic order in both social and economic terms. The organization subscribes to the strengthening of the participatory components of representative democracy and the advancement of human rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In the light of the importance that the organization attaches to human rights, it has been a regular attendee at the sessions of the Human Rights Council, where it not only presented written and oral statements, but also organized side events. Given that the organization is located in Vienna, a United Nations headquarters duty station, it follows that the organization observes with keen interest the work of the Vienna-based United Nations organizations, especially as they relate to development. Over the past four years, the organization has been a major player in establishing an NGO committee on sustainable development that meets regularly in the Vienna International Centre. Within the context of the committee, the organization has taken up the baton of ensuring social and environmental sustainability and justice. The Committee is currently elaborating a position on sustainable development goals and following the debate within the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2009, the organization attended two meetings related to climate change in New York: the summit on climate change held on 22 September and the related segment in the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly. From 2010 to 2012, the organization attended the fourteenth to twenty-first sessions of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva. It also attended the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 27 February to 9 March 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Thanks to its extensive network of human rights defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran (a project funded by the European Union in the amount of 600,000 euros), the organization supported the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The organization also

provided case histories and other data that were drawn upon in the elaboration and refinement of the special procedures for the Human Rights Council.

The organization also maintained working contacts with other United Nations special rapporteurs in areas related to rights of ethnic and religious minorities, freedom of expression and assembly as well as torture.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In the years leading up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the organization, together with other NGOs in Austria, launched several proposals related to the Goals under the heading "Justice in a finite world". The main emphasis of the initiative (which entailed the organization of 50 events) was on development policy and the environment. The policy proposals developed were ultimately presented to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management of Austria and were subsequently incorporated into the Government's submission to the Conference. The establishment of a representative cross-section of NGOs concerned with developmental issues, of which the organization was a founding member, contributed greatly to enhancing public awareness of the Goals. A parallel initiative was also launched to follow climate-related developments addressed by the United Nations.

The organization was a major sponsor of activities relating to the Goals, primarily within the context of its global learning programme aimed at schools and adult education institutes.

14. Vrienden van Congo

Special, 2009

Introduction

Vrienden van Congo has been working in various sectors of society in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since 2009. Its activities are organized and monitored through partnerships with various local organizations. In 2010, following a decision adopted at the general assembly, the headquarters was moved from Belgium to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Since activities organized from a distance had proved ineffective, the decision to relocate enabled the organization to coordinate its activities more easily and to achieve results beyond its expectations (or that exceeded its goals).

In the 2009-2012 period, the organization was active in three main areas, namely, agriculture, training (education) and capacity-building.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works in the agricultural sector to increase cassava production in the region of Pay Kongila so that farmers can sell their harvest at a competitive price in Kinshasa and can increase their income by minimizing production costs using supplies provided by the organization (fertilizers, implements, drugs and vehicles).

In the field of education and training, the organization has worked to broaden the scope of scientific research by offering new publications in selected fields, and to boost access to new information technology. The organization also works to strengthen self-help capacities; build the capacities of microfinance institutions; ensure that the community radio station of MIJAS Congo reaches a wider audience; and enhance access to microloans.

Significant changes in the organization

The general assembly of the organization unanimously decided to relocate the association's headquarters and apply for legal status in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Following the move and the closure of its offices in Belgium, the association decided to launch operations on a 13-hectare piece of land in Kimwenza that it has owned since 2009. Half the land is used by local organizations for commercial purposes to raise funds for the association. Chemical fertilizer-free vegetables and fruit are packaged and marketed to the same end.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributes to the work of the United Nations within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals by working to reduce rural poverty through farmers' associations and South-South fair trade.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- 14 and 15 June 2010: informal interactive meetings involving the general assembly and non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector.
- 3-14 May 2010: eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.
- 1-12 March 2010: fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women.
- 3-12 February 2010: forty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development.
- 18-27 May 2009: Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (resumed 2009 session).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No information provided.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Agriculture: higher productivity of farmers' associations; lower prices and better terms of trade; improvement in the quality of life of area farmers as a result of rising incomes.

Education and training: quantitative and qualitative increase in the library book selection; better access to information technology (Internet).

Capacity-building: enhanced approach to the redefinition of strategies for entering the market in partnership with microfinance institutions.

15. Wellesley Centers for Women

Special, 2001

Introduction

The Wellesley Centers for Women aims to bring about social change through its social science research projects and training programmes. Women's perspectives and experiences are at the centre of this work, which addresses three major areas: the status of women and girls and the advancement of their human rights, both in the United States and around the globe; the education, care and development of children and young people; and the emotional well-being of families and individuals. The organization conducts scholarly research and sound action programmes with women's perspectives and experiences at the centre and ensures that this work reaches a wide audience and thus influences public policies and programmes.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Issues of diversity and equity are central to all the work, as are the experiences and perspectives of women from various backgrounds and cultures. With its more than 70 full-time and part-time staff members and some 45 research and action projects, the organization has produced more than 400 papers, reports and curricula and more than 200 scholarly journal articles and 100 books since 1974. The outcome of this work has led to the training of thousands of practitioners and brought about critical changes in public policies, perceptions and practices.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributed in the following areas:

(a) It participated in monitoring the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

(b) It served as a panellist during the fourth session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, held in New York in September 2011, at a side event entitled "Gender perspectives: using international law to advance the rights of women and girls with disabilities";

(c) It served as a panellist for a side event at the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York in 2011, on expanding access to education and employment opportunities for girls and women with disabilities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(d) It served as a panellist for a side event at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York in 2010, entitled

"Cross-sectionalities of gender, disability and development: towards equality for women and girls with disabilities";

(e) As a member of the advisory board of the United Nations Evaluation Group, it attended a workshop on gender equality and human rights evaluation guidance held in New York in February 2009;

(f) It organized conferences on implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Bangladesh and Nepal with grass-roots organizations and NGOs (January 2009).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended the forty-seventh session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, held in Geneva in November 2012, sessions of the Statistical Commission, held in New York from 2009 to 2012, and the fifty-third to fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 2009 to 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

As adviser to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the organization developed a guidance document on gender and disability to be used as a supplement to the guidance note for United Nations country teams on integrating the rights of persons with disabilities in United Nations programming at the country level.

The organization contributed to Eastern Europe and Central Asia regional legislative analysis and mapping for regional partners. This work by UNFPA was the result of the legislative analysis undertaken by the Subregional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia of UN-Women on new developments in gender equality legislation in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Together with UNFPA and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the organization developed a resource tool entitled "Disability rights, gender, and development: a resource tool for action". The organization also worked on an indicators project by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva in April 2009.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization participated as a member of the research expert group at the expert group meeting on mainstreaming disability in the policies, processes and mechanisms of the Millennium Development Goals, held from 14 to 16 April 2009.